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PLEASE NOTE

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Notation for Recording Pronunciation.

1. Vowel and diphthongal sounds.[1]

FOR	AS IN	USE
a	father, ah, card	*â*
a	hat, mad, cap	*ae*
a	fast, pass[2]	*à*
a	pay, name, fate	*ê (ei)*[3]
ai, a	air, mare	*eə (aeə, eə)*[4]
au, aw	haul, law	*ɔ*
e	pet, hen	*e*
e, ee	me, bee, seed	*î*
e, ee, ea	mere, peer, fear	*îə*
e	butter, battery	*ə*
e	her	*ĕ*
e	there	*eə (aeə, éə)*[4]
e	few, pew	*yû*
e	dew, new[5]	*iû*
ei, ey	neigh, they	*ê (ei)*[3]
i	hit, bid, pin	*i*
i	machine	*î*
i	sir	*ĕ*
i	time, pine	*ai, (əi)*[6]
i	ire, fire	*aiə*[4]
o	not, cot, top	*o (ɑ)*[7]
o, ou	note, tone, dough	*ô (ou)*[8]
o	stone, whole[9]	*ò*
o	son	*ŭ*
o	word	*ĕ*
o, oa	cord, hoard	*ɔə (óə, oə)*[4]
oi	boil, coin	*oi*
oo	book	*u*
oo	fool, pool	*û*
oo, ou	poor, tour	*ûə*
ou	round, house	*au (aeu, àu)*
ou, ow	hour, tower, power	*auə*[4]
u	full, pull	*u*
u	rude	*û*
u	up, but	*ŭ*
u	curl, furl	*ĕ*
u	use	*yû*

2. Consonants.[10] (Written as usual unless indicated.)

FOR	AS IN	USE
ch	church	*tʃ*
dg	judge }	
g	gem }	*dʒ*
j	judge }	
n, ng	sink, finger, singing	*ŋ*
qu	quite	*kw*
s	pleasure	*ʒ*
sh	she	*ʃ*
th	think	*þ*
th	this	*ð*
wh	when	*hw*
x	tax	*ks*
x	exact	*gz*
z	azure	*ʒ*

3. Accents, syllable division, etc.

The accent may be marked by · (a turned period) before the vowel of the accented syllable. If none is written, the accent is understood to be on the first syllable. A secondary accent may be marked by : (colon) before the vowel, as *œks:esib·iliti* (*accessibility*).

Hyphens may be used to indicate syllable division and vocalic character of *l*, *r*, *n*, etc. Thus, *a-a* is different from *aa*, *ai-ə* from *aiə*; and *îzl-i* (*easily*) may be written when the second syllable consists of *l* with no preceding vowel.

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[1] In case the ear makes finer distinctions, the sign for the nearest sound may be used with an exponent (a^1, o^1, r^1, etc.) to be explained in a note. In unaccented syllables the quantity of vowels is naturally lessened, and this lessening is sufficiently shown by the lack of accent. Decidedly greater length than would be expected may be indicated by doubling the letter. Nasality may be marked by ˌ (a turned apostrophe) after the letter, as $a_{ˌ}$.

[2] When pronounced with a vowel intermediate to *a* (top) and *ae* (hat).

[3] Use *ei* when the sound ends in a faint *i*.

[4] After these diphthongs *r* (and *ə*) should be written only when pronounced.

[5] This is the peculiar American sound intermediate between *û* and *yû*. Thus *nyû* is English, *niû* is American, but *yûs*, *fyû* are both American and English. Write *nû*, *dù* when the words are so pronounced.

[6] Use *ei* for the sound usual in England.

[7] Use *a* when nearer *father* than *law*; use *o* when like *law*, but shorter.

[8] Use *ou* when the sound ends in a faint *u*.

[9] The short New England sound.

[10] Doubled consonants are not to be used unless the consonant is really long or produces the effect of two consonants on the ear; as *siti* (*city*), *sitə* (*sitter*), *autt·ɔk* (*outtalk*).

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VOGUE AFFIXES IN PRESENT-DAY WORD-COINAGE.

Following is a list—not complete, of course—of contemporary coinages which exemplify the particular set of prefixes and endings now having especial popularity, and illustrate the present-day liking for novel verbal effect as an arrest to the attention. Judging from this list, native affixes still show, on the whole, less vitality than affixes borrowed into our speech from classical sources. The list also illustrates the curious fluctuation in the popularity of prefixes and endings noted long ago by students of linguistic history. Affixes which have remained dormant for a time are likely to be seized upon by the popular fancy and suddenly to become active again. Others which once enjoyed high favor pass into relative, or complete, disuse. For example, among native affixes, *-dom,* liked by Carlyle, who coined *duncedom,* and by his contemporaries, but showing, on the whole, little vitality during the nineteenth century, has now taken a strong revival. On the other hand, *-ship, -ness* and *-th* (compare Walpole's *greenth* or Ruskins' *illth*), which are common endings in the formation of abstract substantives, are not represented in the list; though *-ness,* at least, is still occasionally utilized for new words. The agent suffix *-ster* is also having a revival, and, as a jocular ending for adjectives, the native suffix *-y.* The Old French noun suffix *-ery,* appearing in standard words like *bakery, fishery,* now has considerable vogue in semi-jocular use. Among classical suffixes *-ism, -ist, -itis, -ize* are enjoying a high tide of popularity, and so is the hard-worked prefix *super-.*

Scientific, literary, or academic speech have rarely been taken into account, or laid under contribution for the words cited. In such more or less scholastic speech, formations showing the vitality of the imported affixes *multi-, counter-, pro-, anti-, ante-, re-, post-, hyper-, pseudo-,* etc., domesticated long ago, are abundant, and illustration of their utilization in the making of new words is not

needed. Entries have been confined largely to colloquial speech or to current popular writing.[1] In the main, the list speaks for itself. No word appears which is entered in the New Webster International or the new Standard Dictionary.

ILLUSTRATIVE WORD-LIST

I—SUBSTANTIVAL SUFFIXES

1*a*. Agent Suffixes—Masculine or Feminine

(a) The suffix *-ee*

draftee. "Hearing at State House on Feminine Draftees." Sub-head, Boston Evening Globe, January 3, 1918.

happenee. "Something is due to happen some fine morning and I fear she is going to be the *happen-ee*." From "Light of Countenance," Lincoln Daily News, January 25, 1918.

honoree. "Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Clark who will leave in two weeks for Lansing, Michigan, have been added to the list of *honorees*, and a week of interesting events is planned and will follow the week of informal affairs given for Mrs. Clark." Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, Nov. 24, 1917.

holdupee. "Hereafter I shall enjoy the distinction of belonging to the select though happily rapidly diminishing class of '*holdupees*.' I shall try to get as much pleasure out of this honor as possible." A. L. Candy, in Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, July 14, 1916.

rushee. "There were present all the fraternity girls and their freshmen *rushees*." See Dialect Notes, IV, 279.

tippee. "Tipsters, tipplers, tippers, and *tippees*." Irving Cobb in Saturday Evening Post, August 11, 1917, p. 13.

(b) *-ite*

cityite. "To him hell is a reality, a visibility, a tangibility, a perpetuity. He sees it in the home of the man who mows his oats on Sunday; it looms black for the *cityite* who goes to the theatres and plays seven-up and pinochle." Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, July 20, 1915.

kaiserite. "And the *kaiserites* in this country manifest the same attribute. As a whole, the German people have a fine conception of probity and honor." Lincoln (Nebraska) Daily Star, October 10, 1917.

Kreislerite. "*Kreislerites*—Cause and Effect." Heading of paragraph on Fritz Kreisler, in Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, December 2, 1917.

Other derivatives from names are *Bryanite*, *Hooverite*, Billy *Sundayite*, etc.

laborite. "*Laborites* Expected to Form New Cabinet as Result of Referendum." Heading in New York Times, December 25, 1917.

[1] For the collection of part of the material in this list, the author is indebted to Miss Elisabeth Wittmann of Doane College, Nebraska.

(c) *-ist*

behaviorist. "If the *behaviorist* throws all introspective data out of court, the psychologist, as such, has no more to say than to any other biologist." Horace B. English in the Journal of Philosophy, Psychology, and Scientific Methods, October 22, 1917, p. 613.

chalkologist. "The audience was put in a responsive mood at the start last night by the *chalkologist,* Edwin Marshal, who deftly sketched prominent people in the boxes and front rows and then rolled up the crayon paper to toss to the originals." Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, October 6, 1916.

impossibilist. "He (Henry Arthur Jones) even does more, for on the program of his play, The Pacifists, lately presented at the St. James's Theatre in London, he prints a dedication to 'the tribe of wordsters, pedants, fanatics, and *impossibilists* who so rabidly pursued an ignoble peace that they helped to provoke a disastrous war.'" Literary Digest, October 20, 1917, p. 25.

knittist. "Just see what an expert *knittist* I am." Oral.

masculinist. . . . "the Hon. Mr. Burdette-Coutts, né Bartlett, a statesman who was not too fierce a *masculinist* to take the name of his wife." Signe K. Toksvig, "They Do It Better in England." The New Republic, November 3, 1917, p. 19.

swimmist. "Here's your chance to become a *swimmist.*" Oral.

trapezist. " . . . a great pile of bagged flour, covered with oil-skin and roped precariously near his head, teetered lightly like a *trapezist,* tantalizingly receding and advancing with coy touches on his shoulder." Mary Brecht Pulver in Saturday Evening Post, October, 1917, p. 53.

writtist. "Don't ask me to compose that letter. I'm no *writtist.*" Oral.

1*b*. Agent Suffixes—Masculine[1]

(a) The suffix *-ster*

clubster. Name given certain models of automobiles, for example, a model of the Lexington. *Clubster* has been used hitherto as a synonym of *clubman.*

dopester. "Iowa mare surprised *dopesters* with her speed." Heading in Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, August 6, 1917.

funster. "Hurry! Hurry! Hurry! to the Shriner Minstrels. 60—Frolicking Funsters—60." Advertisement in Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, November 23, 1916.

hopster. "But he informed me that it was all right, that they had a grasshopper and were trying to wish good luck on him supposedly by squeezing molasses out of the poor *hopster.*" From "The Golfer's Evil Eye," by John G. Anderson. Quoted in the Literary Digest, November 20, 1915.

[1] These suffixes are usually applied to men, although at present they have not necessarily sex significance. The suffix *-ster* was originally the feminine of *-er.*

hymnster. "War, said his professors of Kultur and his *hymnsters* of hate, could never be waged in the Tipperary spirit, and the nation that sent to the front soldiers who sang and laughed must be the very decadent England they had all along denounced as unworthy of world-power." From "Foreword," by the editor of "The Byestander," to "Fragments from France," by Captain Bruce Bairnsfather. 1917.

mobster. "Many *mobsters* have left the city, it is asserted, and leaders of the mob are going to be hard to find." Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, July 11, 1917.

speedster. "Kline has a diminutive *speedster* at quarterback, Hauser by name." Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, October 3, 1917. Also name given a certain make of automobile. Compare *roadster, clubster.*

wordster. "He (Mr. Henry Arthur Jones) even does more, for on the program of his play, The Pacifists, lately presented at St. James's Theatre in London, he prints a dedication to 'The tribe of *wordsters*, pedants, fanatics, and impossibilists who so rabidly pursued an ignoble peace that they helped to provoke a disastrous war.'" The Literary Digest, October 20, 1917, p. 25,

(b) *-er*

hate-hymner. "*Hate-hymners* all over the country want the order modified, and resolutions of a varied nature regarding the order are coming in from all over the country." Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, February 9, 1918.

red-taper. "The true hope of improvement lies in the fact that the country is now looking on and getting a vivid sense of who are the real *red-tapers.*" From "The Real Red-Tapers," The Nation, January 10, 1918.

soap-boxer. "I know it. . . . You see, Mawruss, an editor, a *soap-boxer*, a cotton-mill owner or a stock-waterer might get away with it in this country under the constitution, but over on the other side they wouldn't know what he was talking about at all." From "Potash and Perlmutter on Soap-boxers and Peace Fellers," by Montague Glass. McClure Newspaper Syndicate, 1917.[1]

1c. Agent Suffixes—Feminine

(a) The suffix *-ette*

chaufrette. "You advertised as a *chaufrette*-maid?"
"Yes, madam."

[1] Coinage, recently brought to my attention, which show other masculine agent suffixes are, *mortician*, for "undertaker," in use according to Mr. B. L. Lehman, in the Northwest, and *motorneer*, built on the model of *engineer, mountaineer, etc.*, in sporadic use for "driver of a motor." Compare also *bunioneer.* "trod on bunions with the other Brooklyn *bunioneers*, and jolted and chilblained with the rest of the B. R. T's jitney patients." Arthur ("Bugs") Baer. Quoted in Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, February 28, 1918.

"What were your duties at your last place?"
"I drove and cleaned the cars single-handed."
"And as a maid?"
"I took down my lady at night, and assembled her in the morning, madam."

Floating newspaper paragraphs, 1917. Credited to Cassell's Saturday Journal.

conductorette. In oral and newspaper currency. 1918.

devilette. "Surrounded by witches, *devilettes*, and sorceresses." From an oral description of a stage scene.

elephantette. "Persis was an adorable white *elephantette.*" Nalbro Bartley in Saturday Evening Post, November 10, 1917, p. 38.

farmerette. "When the newspapers were photographing *'armerettes'* and the department stores advertised a strange garment called 'womanalls,' New York had a vague proud feeling that something was really being done about the agricultural situation." Virginia Gildersleeve in the New Republic, September 1, 1917.

hoboette. "*Hoboettes* of America, name of new woman organization of hobo biscuit shooters who wander from one city to another." From "News Oddities." Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, February 23, 1918.

huskerette. "'The time of our lives,' chimed the *huskerettes* [corn huskers], as they arrived in the city last night about 10:30." Lincoln (Nebraska) Daily Star, November 18, 1917.

kaiserette. "She knoweth when she walketh to the altar who shall be the slave and who shall be the ruler and the little *kaiserette* within the house." Helen Rowland, Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, September 13, 1917.

officerette. "The *officerette* is entirely a war-time product." ". . . women *officerettes* have recently been detailed . . . in American training camp towns." Frederic J. Haskins. Washington, D. C., newspaper despatch, May 2, 1918.

sherifette. "Fifty-five deputy *sherifettes* are doing scouting work around the training camps for the protection of young girls, the women's war work division of the committee on public information announced to-day." Washington despatch in Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, February 20, 1918.

slackerette. "And the last *slackerette* is at work." Oral. 1918.

Tammanette. "You're not going to nominate a lady Mayor of New York, are you?" he persisted. "God forbid! I'd be afraid to meet one of those *Tammanettes* after dark." From "When the House is on Fire," by Wallace Irwin, in Saturday Evening Post, January 19, 1918, p. 8.

The suffix is diminutive only, without special feminine significance in—

devilette. "Djinns, according to our major-domo, are little *devilettes*, not necessarily workers of evil unless annoyed by rapid and unthinking movements of inmates of the house—a point which would seem to account for the excessive slowness of Arab servants." Vogue, May 15, 1916, p. 113.

The suffix *-ette* appears as a diminutive in the trade coinages[1] *kitchenette, cellarette* and in

featurette. Mutual Featurette
Miss Billie Rhodes
Mutual Film Company.

localette. "*Localettes.*" Heading for theatrical announcements. Albany, New York, Times-Union, January 5, 1918.

Travelette. Heading of a short description of Old Deerfield. Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, May 26, 1918.

(b) *-ine*

actorine. "Looking agonized seems to be the chief business of the moving picture *actorines.*" Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, July 20, 1915.

knitterine. "The egg and the hen controversy also kicked up an awful smear in the wealthy knitting societies of Riverside Drive, and some of the *knitterines* got so excited that they stopped gossiping and actually knitted for a few seconds." Arthur ("Bugs") Baer, quoted in Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, March 14, 1918.

2. Abstract Suffixes

(a) The suffix *-dom*

beltdom. "Alexander, The Overshadowing Factor of *Beltdom.*" Advertisement of Alexander Brothers, Makers of Leather Belting, Philadelphia, in Saturday Evening Post, March 10, 1917.

bookdom. "The London Book Shop is an example of the specialization within the whole Wanamaker Book Store. It is made up of about 10,000 volumes of the rare and beautiful in *bookdom*—the joy of the collector's and booklover's heart." Advertisement.

catdom. "Bill Dingley of Arrandale, a full pedigreed aristocrat of *catdom* owned by Mrs. F. H. Barnes." Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, August 8, 1915.

crookdom. "In these hotel and restaurant bars toward an afternoon's close, such aristocrats and would-be aristocrats of *crookdom* as are not solicitously desired by the police, love to foregather for informal discourse." Metropolitan Magazine, August, 1916, p. 20.

dogdom. "A Conference in *Dogdom.*" Title of a Paramount Pictograph. Compare the earlier *doghood.*

elkdom. "Once each year all *Elkdom* bows its head and pays the tribute of a tear to the brothers who nevermore this side of the great river will answer: 'Present.'" Notice of a memorial meeting of the Elks, Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, December 4, 1916.

extradom. "Often it appears like butting your head against a stone wall; the rise from the ranks of *extradom* is usually after a long, tedious and often bitter waiting." Motion Picture Classic, August, 1916, p. 46.

fandom. "*Fandom* doubtless will learn to-morrow to its great relief that there never has been a chance for baseball players to pull off their threatened

[1] For affixes popular in the coinage of trade-names, see my "Word-Coinage and Modern Trade-Names," Dialect Notes, IV, 29.

strike, and that all talk of such action is worthy only of youthful minds." Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, February 12, 1917.

filmdom. "The Most Adorable Miss in Filmdom—Marguerite Clark." Advertisement.

flapperdom. "Next to her came Kenneth Rushton, and beside him Miss Esmé Porteous, still in her teens and barely free of the thrall of *flapperdom.*" From "A Page from a Notebook," by Roland Pertwee, in the Saturday Evening Post, December 8, 1917, p. 26.

hatdom. "Dancing Hats—The Smart Things in '*Hatdom.*'" Advertisement in the Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, October 30, 1916.

kaiserdom. "Will *kaiserdom* go the same way that Czardom has gone?" Kuno Francke, Harper's Monthly Magazine, September, 1917, p. 475. Similarly *junkerdom* appears frequently in magazines and newspapers.

moviedom. "Methra Morrell, *Moviedom's* Greatest Actress, in 'Methra's Decision' is the way the big type reads on the posters." Motion Picture Magazine, October, 1916, p. 56.

newspaperdom. "His large dinners to our editors are the talk of *newspaperdom.*" "Lord Northcliffe, Benefactor." The Nation, November 1, 1917, p. 478.

picturedom. "In this list are some names (to be announced later) that stand for the best and greatest names in *picturedom.*" Advertisement in Metropolitan Magazine, August, 1916, p. 42.

playerdom. "Greenroom Jottings, Little Whisperings from Everywhere in *Playerdom.*" Motion Picture Classic, August, 1916, p. 66.

screendom. "It is doubtful if a canvass of *screendom's* entire roster of feminine stars could have discovered one more fitted to play the part . . ." Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, October 10, 1916.

shoedom. "Buckskin, the latest in '*Shoedom.*'" Advertisement in the Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, December 15, 1916.

sportdom. "We later interviewed Dean Hastings, of the Law College, about the general outlook in *sportdom*, and he gave it as his opinion that the Allies had the stronger batteries, but the Germans were better at stealing bases. . . ." The Daily Nebraskan (College paper). October 8, 1915.

stagedom. " . . . unless some chap comes along with the right key to her heart, she [Marguerite Clark] is going right on, single-handed as it were, being one of the most fascinating figures in *stagedom.*" The Minneapolis Tribune Sunday Magazine, July 30, 1916, p. 11.

stardom. "She [Mary Anderson] applied at Vitagraph as an 'extra' and has worked her way up to *stardom.*" Motion Picture Magazine, September, 1916, p. 152.

swelldom. " . . . the young Mrs. Brady was taken up by *swelldom*, whose practically unanimous verdict was that she was a charming addition to their circle." Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, March 12, 1915.[1]

[1] This suffix probably owes something of its popularity, since the outbreak of the present war, to the German *-thum.*

(b) *-ism*

Ed Howeism. "*Ed Howeisms.*" Heading in E. W. Howe's Monthly, Quoted frequently in newspapers.

fraternityism. "The spirit of exclusiveness and of domination by hook or crook—mostly crook—is essential Prussianism, and it is generally agreed that it is essential high school *fraternityism.*" Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, October 14, 1917.

Hearstism. . . . "Lord Northcliffe's journalistic methods are set forth in striking likeness to what we know as *Hearstism;* they do not stop at recalling the lottery devices upon which Lord Northcliffe founded his original journalistic successes." The Nation, November 1, 1917, p. 478.

red-tapism. ". . . *red-tapism*—a disease endemic to government communities the world over." From "Red Tape," by David Lawrence. Saturday Evening Post, February 2, 1918, p. 7.

slackerism. "The American Protective League of its own accord has inquired into many thousands of cases of *slackerism.*" David Lawrence in "Swat the Spy," Saturday Evening Post, January 12, 1918, p. 15.

Von Tirpitzism. "Let us end Kaiserism, junkerism, and *Von Tirpitzism.*" Quotation from a war speech.

(c) *-itis*

Americanitis. "A Chicago physician says most of the illness in this country should be called '*Americanitis.*'" Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, April 30, 1915.

committee-itis. "What is *committee-itis?* It's the mania to be on a committee. . . ." Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, June 2, 1915.

conventionitis. "Admitting that there is no cure for *Conventionitis,* let it be said in the same breath that the Blimleys who sleep five in a Room with the Windows down never want to be cured." George Ade, "New Fables in Slang," The Cosmopolitan, December, 1917, p. 91.

flivveritis. "In the ten-year clinic they have discovered that the B. R. T. is suffering from everything from flat arches of the facilities to *flivveritis* of the accommodations." Arthur ("Bugs") Baer. Quoted in Lincoln (Nebraska) Daily News, February 26, 1918.

golfitis. "He had even talked golf to his wife—which is the last stage of incurable *golfitis.*" "The Man Who Quit," by Charles E. Van Loan, Saturday Evening Post, November 3, 1917.

Philippinitis. Name used colloquially, or jocularly, with reference to the state of relative relaxation or inertia felt by Americans who have remained for a time in the Philippine Islands.

schedulitis. ". . . classifying its transportation ailments and tabulating its epidemics of delayed *schedulitis.*" Arthur ("Bugs") Baer. Quoted in Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, February 26, 1918.

Zepplelinitis. "English troubled with *Zepplelinitis.*" Heading in Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, April 17, 1915.

(d) *-ese*

Bryanese. "Shall we give up Rooseveltism to talk *Bryanese?*" Quotation from a war speech.

Jingoese. "Not one of the press demagogues who daily or weekly whip up the beast in man, not one of the militarists who are to crush out militarism could vie with Christabel Pankhurst in her impassioned torrent of *Jingoese.*" Metropolitan Magazine, August, 1916, p. 42.

telegraphese. "His [Liebknecht's] writing is a sort of *telegraphese:* he is so eager to set down just what he thinks that there is no time left for grace of style or cunning of presentation." From "A Corner in Books." Pearson's Magazine, January, 1918, p. 334.

(e) *-ology*

chalkology. See *chalkologist.* Name given his "art" by the "chalkologist," Edward Marshal.

scrapology. "A *scrapology*—The ideal scrap book. Neat, compact, convenient." Advertisement.

(f) *-craft*

mothercraft. "And she joined a Mothers' Club which met once a week. And she took a correspondence course in *mothercraft* from a school in Chicago, which teaches that business by mail." Dorothy Canfield in "Understood Betsy," 1917, p. 5.

screencraft. "J. Stuart Blackton, the Master of *Screencraft.*" Advertisement of Artcraft Pictures. 1918.

See also *Artcraft* and *Clothescraft* clothes, *Willowcraft* furniture, *Safecraft* desks, etc.

(g) *-ment*

foolishment. "*Foolishment.*" Heading for a jocular verse. New York Evening World, January 4, 1918.

3. Nouns of Action

(a) The suffix *-ization*

filmization. "The Common Law." "A *filmization* of Robert W. Chambers' story of life and love." Moving picture advertisement.

Hooverization. "The *Hooverization* of our meals is coming to be an old story." Oral.

Nebraskization. He has lived too long in the East. He needs *Nebraskization.*" Oral.

picturization. "'The Little American' is a stirring *picturization* of events in France during the great war." Moving picture notice.

(b) *-ication*

pepification. "We need more *pepification*—more stirring up—of the football enthusiasts." From a speech at a football rally.

Russification. Term used by Professor C. L. Meeder in a paper on "Democracy in Russian Literature," read before the Modern Language Association, December 29, 1917.

4. Other Substantival Suffixes

(a) The suffix *-ery*

beanery. Entered as "slang" in late dictionaries.

The booklet told about the scenery,
And he did find a lot of greenery.
But now he squeals
And says the meals
Would do credit to a *beanery.*

Floating verses, credited to the Kansas City Journal.

bootery. "The *Bootery.*" Shop sign of a Lincoln, Nebraska, shoe store.

boozery. "Hundreds of Denver women, obliged to wash for a living while their husbands loafed and lushed in the *boozeries* under license and regulation, are now given the support to which they are entitled by the men who swore to protect them, but forgot about it," etc. Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, September 12, 1916.

drillery. "The *Drillery.*" Name given on the sign of a business school, at Washington, D. C., which prepares for civil service examinations.

drinkery. "The gain in self-respect has more than counterbalanced the loss in license money. The decrease in police and criminal court expenses justifies the action of the people in closing up public *drinkeries.*" Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, September 12, 1916.

forgettery. See Dialect Notes, III, 543.

hashery. Same meaning and use as *beanery.*

printery. "The *Printery.*" Shop sign at Lincoln, Nebraska.

Compare the earlier vogue of *-orium* in this usage, as in shop signs like "Printorium," "Pantorium," "Suitorium."

As an abstract suffix, *-ery* appears in—

Comstockery. "An apostle of *Comstockery* finds that motion picture studio-life has been slandered." Heading in Current Opinion, November, 1917, p. 318. See also "that very *comstockery* he denounces," in the New Republic, November 24, 1917, p. 102.

skiddery. "They were again favored this campaign, but after holding their own until the stretch arrived where they were supposed to be at their best, they once more landed on the *skiddery* and began to crumble up." Minneapolis Evening Tribune baseball notice, September 13, 1916.

(b) *-ologue*

buzzologue. "And when teacher wanted to visualize the fact that the world was round, she would illustrate her *buzzologue* with an orange. . ." Arthur ("Bugs") Baer. Quoted in Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, March 5, 1918.

chatalogue. "Teacher could always illumine her *chatalogues* so as to make all of us kids understand, no matter what the subject happened to be." Arthur ("Bugs") Baer. Quoted in Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, March 5, 1918.

gasologue. "*Gasologue* No. I." Heading of a series of talks on gas in the advertising pages of the Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, April, 1915.

pianologue. "The music includes classical and popular quartets and solos, popular medleys, novelties, *pianologues,* readings, with the whole program tied together in a sketch of Panama." Advertising circular.

(c) *-ograph*

paintograph. "The Lelands in a '*Paintograph* Novelty.'" Name given a number in the Martin Beck Orpheum Circuit, 1916.

5. Suffixes of Recent Domestication

(a) *inski*

buttinski. See Dialect Notes, IV, 304, 354.

devilinski. See Ibid.

(b) *-fest*

See Dialect Notes, IV, 353. To the entries here cited may be added—

chatfest. "The Chemical Laboratory. Home of *chatfests.*" Oral.

egofest. "This *egofest* has been vouchsafed me and I'm so excited over the chance to talk about myself that I'm shaking like an aspen leaf." "Rob Wagner—Himself," in Saturday Evening Post, October 20, 1917, p. 27.

fun-fest. "Lincoln High Invites to Fun-Fest." Heading in Daily Nebraskan, student newspaper, University of Nebraska, February 27, 1918.

gossipfest. "They were probably having a faculty *gossipfest.*" Oral.

6. The Prefix *super*

superbuilding. "Great, Dominating, *Superbuildings,* Symbols of Financial Power Concentrated in Lower Manhattan." From an advertising circular of a New York Department Store.

super-cat. "Ours is a *super-cat.* She's a smoked Persian." Oral.

super-criminal. See quotation cited under *super-effort.*

super-effort. "Befuddled by the clever moves of the super-criminal, spurred to *super-efforts* by a beautiful girl, this master detective is baffled at every turn." Advertisement of the Photo Play, "Through the Wall," from the novel by Cleveland Moffatt.

super-English. "Girls in high schools and students of elocution often acquire this kind of *super-English.*" From "The Improvement of American Speech," by G. P. Krapp. The English Journal, February, 1918, p. 89.

super-feature. "'The Little American.' *Super Feature* especially for State Fair visitors. A Show for all patriotic Americans." Advertising circular for a moving picture.

super-film. "This *super-film* should be missed by no one who cares for a thrilling story and for genuine artistic appeal." Advertisement for a moving picture.

super-mind. "Such reasoning would be comprehensible only to a *super-mind.*" Oral. "Four *Super-Minds* Ruling in Loop." Heading in Chicago Daily News, January 5, 1918.

super-partner. "I had a *super-partner* at the bridge party. She was the best I ever played with." Oral.

superproduction. "Theda Bara in the *Superproduction* Cleopatra." Advertisement.

super-servant. "I am the *super-servant* girl. My business is to cause trouble to common people." From Life. Quoted in Lincoln (Nebraska) Evening News, August, 1916.

super-soul. "I encourage . . . all these sparks of thought that are emanations of the *super-soul.*" From "Joy-Joy" by Sinclair Lewis, Saturday Evening Post, October 20, 1917, p. 67.

super-speech. ". . . one who has before him a vision of some kind of *super-speech.*" From "The Improvement of American Speech," by G. P. Krapp. The English Journal, February, 1918, p. 89.

super-woman. "The Demi-Divine *Super-Woman,* Annette Kellerman." Advertisement of Miss Kellerman as she appeared in the moving picture, "A Daughter of the Gods."[1]

II—ADJECTIVAL SUFFIXES

(a) The prefix *-atious*

temptatious. "The devil at his elbow is the *temptatious* title of a coming Metro feature, in which Dorothy Green will co-star with Clifford Bruce." Motion Picture Magazine, September, 1916, p. 135. Probably an independent word, having no connection with the archaic word *temptatious.*

(b) *-y*

cutie. "I've been reading Sadie the Sunshine-Seeker—such a *cutie* story about this girlie and her mother, whom she called 'Dear-Dear'—isn't that a sweet nickname!" Sinclair Lewis in Saturday Evening Post, October 20, 1917, p. 67.

reddy. "What are all the cunning counters, all such bright colors—*reddy* and whity, and the jolly blue?" Ibid., p. 76.

stupidy. "She was sure that it was the dourness of the professor's study which made him write such dull and ill-selling books about the digamma and other *stupidy* things." Ibid. p. 70.

In the following, the force of the suffix is not diminutive:

crispy. "When conversation's give and take, tho *crispy* as the air
May still amuse altho the speech is neither true nor fair. . . ."

A. L. Miller in Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, October 14, 1917.

peppy. "What is needed is people who are more live and *peppy,*" etc. Oral.

picky. "Perchance she touches on the war or how to make preserves,
Tells of a book one ought to read and who has been away;
And not an ugly *picky* thing in all she has to say." Ibid.

[1] The greatly increased currency of this prefix at the present time is probably to be explained by the influence of the German *über,* seen in *superman,* German *Übermensch,* etc.

turpentiny. "And I might still have been living my modest and *turpentiny* life had it not been that a wife and a wicked editor shooed me from my protecting studio out into the merry, but terrific, world of things and kings." Saturday Evening Post, October 20, 1917, p. 126. "Rob Wagner—Himself," in "Who's Who and Why."

For illustrations of coinages in *-ish, -full, -ing, -iferous,* etc., see Elsie L. Warnock, "Terms of Approbation and Eulogy in American Dialect Speech," Dialect Notes, IV, 13, and M. G. Hayden, "Terms of Disparagement in American Dialect Speech," IV, 194.

Adjectival Prefix

(a) The prefix *super-*

super-American. "Majestic! great! *super-American!*" Refrain of verses by H. A. S. entitled "Super-American." Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, February 27, 1918.

superathletic. "The truth is that Meredith cherishes an ideal of what the brilliance of social intercourse ought to be, which corresponded not at all to the capacities of ordinary persons but to the quite abnormal and *super-athletic* activities of his own brain." Sir Sidney Colvin, in Scribner's Magazine, August, 1916.

superfoxy. "If they use such *superfoxy* methods they can never hope to put it over." Student talk.

superintelligent. "A smart, indeed *superintelligent* youth named Percy." Student talk.

superperfect. "They congratulate themselves on their *superperfect* minds." From a newspaper editorial.

III—VERBAL SUFFIXES

(a) The suffix *-ize*

Belgiumize. See Dialect Notes, IV, p. 271.

Hooverize. "A great many Thanksgiving dinners will be '*Hooverized.*' That doesn't mean hard times, by any means, but the old zest for enjoyment has been partly dulled by war horrors and the apprehension that this country is just getting into the horror stage." Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal, November 25, 1917.

Linoleumize. Verb for Linoleum, used as a heading in an advertisement of the latter.

picturize. "The Common Law, by R. W. Chambers, is soon to be *picturized* by one of the leading film companies." Moving picture advertisement.

scenario-ize. "The *scenarioizing* of a drama." Moving Picture advertisement. 1918.

vacationize. "Miss Brown *vacationized* in Connecticut." Used orally, and by a few newspapers.

(b) *-fy*

pepify. "Let's *pepify* the program with a few stunts, for a change." Oral.

(c) *-icate*

This is liked in dialect extensions of the character of *pesticate, busticate, obfusticate*. (Dialect Notes, IV, 272, 278, etc.)

IV

The motive behind some of these coinages is the desire for brevity. "Trapezist" is shorter than "performer on the trapeze," and "soap boxer" is more telling than "man who speaks from a soap box." Similarly, the western college girl's "rushee" condenses several words into one, referring to a girl who is being "rushed" for a fraternity. The majority of the terms listed came into being through the love of facetiousness, or flippancy. To this tendency we owe "huskerette," "elephantette," "actorine," "kaiserite," "committee-itis," and the like. Still other terms seem to have been created purely to catch attention as something different. The wish is to put before the reader some linguistic novelty that will arrest his attention. Thus, we have "temptatious" films, and shop signs like "The Bootery" or "The Printery." The formations with "super" occurring so frequently in moving picture or dramatic announcements are prompted by the advertiser's instinct for exaggeration or hyperbole.

A percentage of the words cited have a certain standing in accepted speech; so "wordster," "bookdom," "newspaperdom," "impossibilist"; and, in the nomenclature of the automobile trade, "speedster" and "clubster" will probably soon have, or have now, the acceptance gained earlier by "roadster." Most of the terms give little promise of permanence. They make a picturesque display, and it is somewhat instructive to see them in mass. But, on the whole, they have little to recommend them intrinsically; they serve some passing purpose only; and they will be succeeded in due time by such linguistic "stunts" as next in order may commend themselves to advertisers and newspaper writers.

LOUISE POUND.

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WORD-LIST—CHILMARK, MARTHA'S VINEYARD, MASS., 1917

The following list of words is taken from a collection made at Menemsha, a fishing village in the town of Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. The community is unusually homogeneous in character, the individuals comprising it being, with very few exceptions, descendants of the early settlers of Tisbury and Chilmark, and giving little evidence of the influence of summer visitors, or of an excess of interest in "off-islanders." Though there is doubtless present an element due to the Gay Head Indians and Negroes, who live west of Menemsha Creek, the element is small, inasmuch as the "Gay Headers" have in general adopted the speech characteristics of their eastern neighbours. It will be seen, even from the short list here printed, that the dialectal relationship to Nantucket and Cape Cod is very close.

Inasmuch as the persons whose use of the expressions is here recorded are fairly well educated, their use of them does not always imply unconsciousness of divergence from standard English. Frequently the dialect form or the archaism is retained as a mild pleasantry; often, too, a certain community and family pride contributes to the persistence of locutions that suggest or recall the past.

bean day. A day when fishermen catch no fish and must eat beans as substitute. "We can't get out to the trap, so I guess it'll be a *bean-day.*"

bonnet (pron. bunnet), n. A skate (ray).

burgoo, n. Thick soup, porridge. "The fog was as thick as *burgoo.*"

cannikin, n. A wooden pail or bucket, with wooden bail, used for flour, sugar, etc. Also *cannapail.*

careless (â), adj. A pronunciation heard among the older people frequently.

case, n. Condition. "The sheep were in good *case,* and I sold them for twenty-two cents a pound."

cobble, v. i. To roll up and break, as surf on a reef. "See how those waves are *cobbling* up on the ledge."

condition, n. Social estate, rank. "That two-year old feels his *condition:* he won't go back with them yearlin's." Cf. Shakespearean use.

current, adj. In good health, active. "How are you?" "I've been sick, but I'm pretty *current* again now."

fierce (ë), adj.

flake, n. Section, piece. "They moved the church in *flakes*."

flared, adj. Somewhat deranged mentally. "Toward the last of his life he was kind o' *flared*. He wan't crazy, but he was queer actin'."

heart, n. Applied to *one-half* of the heart-shaped portion of a fish-trap. The two parts together form a heart-shaped net, but being separable for ease in handling they are called "the hearts."

height, n. Pron. as heyth (ey in they; th as th in thin).

hickory, adj. Rough, tempestuous. "It looks a little too *hickory* to haul the trap this morning."

holusbolus (Both o's as in "note"), n. Violence, energy. "He goes at it *holusbolus*."

hooker, n. A boat, especially of an inferior sort. "It was pretty rugged out there for his old *hooker*."

housen (au), n. pl. Houses. "There are two or three *housen* over on the hill."

into, prep. In. "There was mor'n two tons of hay *into* that mow."

island, n. Frequently pronounced as if *ile-dand*. Very common among older people.

pinkletink, n. Young frog. "I could hear the *pinkletinks* out in the swamp."

poor, adj. Thin. "He's looking awful *poor* this spring."

rainified. Rainy appearance of sky. "It's looked kind o' *rainified* all the morning." So far as I know, limited to one individual, who is rather given to coinages.

rode, n. A rope, especially an anchor rope.

sailorize, v. i. To lead the life of a sailor. "He's a man who has *sailorized* a good deal." Heard but once.

scultch, n. Refuse fish, decayed fish. "I never saw so much *scultch* in the bottom of a pound as there was after that last run of whiting."

shool, for *school*, v. i. "The squeteaque are *shoolin'*."

shotten, adj. Thin because the roe has been ejected. "The oxen are looking fat now. Before grass came they were as thin as *shotten* herring." Cf. Falstaff's "Then am I a shotten herring."

slazey (ê), adj. Flimsy, poorly woven. Not durable. "That cloth is pretty *slazy*."

stouter (au), n. Stake for retaining load, on hay-wagon, etc.

studdle, v. t. To stir up, to roil. (After upsetting coffee-pot): "Well, I guess that coffee's a little *studdled* now."

sudden, adv. Soon, right away. "My father is coming in from hauling his pots pretty *sudden*." Cf. Shak.

surrender, v. i. Used for musical word *render*. "That chain don't surrender very well." Just a blunder among the less educated? But heard it several times.

swankie (ae), n. Water and molasses; sometimes ginger added; also vinegar. [Cf. switchel in New York State?] "When we was whaling we used to dip our hard-tack in *swankie*."

sward (ô), n. Grassy surface of land.

tackle (ê), n. [Folk-ety.<take?] Ropes and pulleys.

tatter, tetter. Used for tether, v. t. "I'm going to get a stake and warp, and *tetter* that horse out."

taut, adj. Not slack, tightly drawn. Universally pronounced tort (o in orb) with "r" very distinct.

tindery, adj. Nervous, irritable, easily inflamed. "He's feelin' kind o' *tindery* this morning."

tread, v. i. Used constantly when "step" would be used in standard English. "Look out! Don't *tread* on that saw."

turkle. Used for *turtle,* n. Also *turkler.* A man showing great energy and persistence. "He's a reg'lar *turkler.*"

waif, n. Weft or wheft (as in *Two Years Before the Mast*). A mark, usually conspicuous, as a bush or barrel, to indicate a passage for boats through "leader" of fish-trap.

waif, v. i. "He *waifed* to me when he went by."

wedge, n. Pronounced almost as wage. *Edge* has similar "a" sound.

white ash breeze. A strong breeze, such as would entail hard rowing. Explained locally as from "white ash oars."

work out, v. phr. Specifically to cultivate with horse and cultivator. "We'll hoe these potatoes again after we have *worked* them *out.*"

BYRON J. REES.

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A NORTH CAROLINA WORD LIST[1]

agin, by the time that, before. "Do it *agin* I come back." Also *gin*.
allow, low (pronounced as *low* in *allow*), think, suppose.
amen-corner, pews at front of church.
bay, a small thicket.
beef, act the bully. Slang.
biggety, proud, vain.
big-hominy, lye hominy of whole corn; contrasted with little hominy, or grits.
blackberry-winter, cold weather in spring when blackberries are in bloom.
black cow, brindle cow, a chocolate milk. Student slang.
booloo, a "fresh" freshman. Student slang.
boomer, a red squirrel. Mountains.
Brown's mule, any chewing tobacco.
butcher, a butcher knife.
cahoot, cahoots, partnership. "Let's go into *cahoots* on this job."
carry, accompany. "Who are you going to *carry* to the show to-night?"
carry-all, a common one-horse wagon.
cat, a cat fish.
chunk, to throw.
cooter, a turtle, especially a fresh-water turtle.
doily, doily or napkin.
dope, coco-cola. Slang.
fernent, same as *ferninst*.
ferninst, opposite. "He lives *ferninst* the hill."
fotched, for *fetched*. Mostly negro.
frensy, frency, withered, dry, as leaves of cotton or tobacco.
frist, cheat. Slang.
Georgia-buggie, a wheelbarrow. N. C.; S. C.
gin, see *agin*.
high-bob, a high chair.
hushpuppy, a sort of bread prepared very quickly and without salt.
jarhead, a mule.
jump, to cause to start, to arouse. "The dog *jumped* a rabbit."
larrup, to whip.
light, alight, get down. "Won't you *light* and come in."
liver-mush, liver pudding.
measly, contemptible.
mind, remember.

[1] Many of the words in this list were handed in to me by students or by members of the department of English at the University of North Carolina.

molly-pop, a Maypop.

mommick, to take advantage of.

much, pet, make much of.

nellify, variant of *nullify*.

nigger-toe, a Brazil nut.

nullify, to balk. "Does this horse *nullify*?" Eastern N. C.

once, for the once, for the occasion. "Will not the farmers get to work and raise additional produce *for the once*"? Richmond Co.

pack, to carry. N. C., Tenn., Kan.

pestel-tail, a mule.

plug, a worthless horse.

plum, entirely.

pock-legs, legs to be driven in, as in a bench or chair.

prissy, prudish, overly modest or scrupulous.

rampageous, sportive, rowdy.

rock, to throw rocks at.

scoots, a high chair.

season, a rain. "This cotton needs a good *season*."

scrouge (scruj), to crowd close together.

shoe-round, a common dance.

short-gun, a pistol. Mountains.

shoulder, a ridge.

side, to plow on the side of the row.

splurge, to make a display, as by spending money freely.

snippy, short, pert.

sookie, a cow.

sore-back, a Virginian. The word has been explained to me as follows: "The North Carolinians say that they had to climb over the backs of the Virginians to get at the enemy during the Civil War and that the tar on their heels gave the Virginians sore backs."

stretching, waiting on the table.

stump-jumper, a countryman. Slang.

themuns, them. Probably due to analogy to *we'uns*, *you'uns*, which are much more common than *themuns*.

to, at. "He is over *to* Mrs. Jones' house."

to, in. "I spent six days *to* the week working on the farm." Johnson County.

tote, carry.

turn, a load.

unbeknown, unknown.

ware (and *where*), who, whom as relatives. "The man *ware* I saw is gone." Mecklenburg County.

whang, a good fellow. Slang.

wheel, a bicycle. Also Ga. and S. C.

which, what, in asking for a statement to be repeated.

whicker, whinny.
whing, a wing. Randolph County.
woods (singular), a wood, a thicket. Moyock, N. C.
yon, yonder.

Phrases[2]

amongst, "*Amongst* ye come to see us," before you come to see us. Currituck County.
as how, that (relative). "I do not think *as how* I'll go."
bad to fight, pugnacious. "He is *bad to fight*."
belong to go, ought to go. "I *belong to go*, but I don't want to."
bide a wee, stay a while. Cape Fear section.
bumble-bee cotton, cotton so low that the bees can lie on their backs and suck the juice from the blooms.
choke-a-broom, a floor sweeper.
clod-knocker, foot.
do which, what did you say? Used in asking for the repetition of a question.
done and gone. "He has *done and gone*." Central N. C.
dry up, stop, hush.
dunno, don't know.
gonna, going to.
happened the good luck, luckily, fortunately. Yadkin Co.
happenly so, by chance. "*Happenly so*, my friend was a girl."
heap sight more, a great deal more.
hollerin' distance, calling distance.
how are they, what do they cost? "*How are your apples to-day?*"
how come, why?
howsomever, however.
jump the broom, to get married (facetious).
liked there, "I *liked there* very much." I liked that place very much.
mind about, remember. Montgomery County.
mind out, look out, be careful.
must to have had, must have had.
off of, off. "Keep *off of* the fence."
ought'n not, ought not.
pick on, tease, annoy, harass.
planned on going, planned to go.
popular to, popular with. Johnson Co.
rather as, rather than.
reading of, reading.
reckon when, when do you think?
remember of, remember.

[2] The meaning of certain words in this list can best be seen from their use in phrases.

rest-days, "Wednesdays and Saturdays, days on which hunting wild game is prohibited by law in our coast counties." This definition was given by one of the students in the University.

run foul of, to meet.

see monkeys, to be overcome by the heat while working. The heat waves are called "monkeys." When one laborer shows signs of exhaustion, the others say, "Look out, the monkeys are after you."

set up to, to court.

swamp-root, whiskey made in the woods.

take off, take out, "*Take off* and help yourself." (At meals.)

that thar, that ar, that there, that (demonstrative).

that-a-way, this-a-way, that way, this way.

try for to do, try to do. Richmond County.

up until, until.

used to could, -would, -was, once could, used to be able, etc.

wait on, wait for. S. C. also.

Where at, where?

J. M. STEADMAN, JR.

Chapel Hill, N. C.

A WORD LIST FROM NORTHWESTERN UNITED STATES.

The words and phrases from northwestern United States here printed have been selected from a much longer list deposited in the collectanea of the Society. Not all, even of those included for publication, are terms in general use. They have been picked up at fraternity smokers, around the cowpuncher's fire, in "Pullman" smokers, and in bunkhouses. They represent the jargon of college students and teachers, of miners and lumbermen and farmers and "sodysquirts," as well as the idiom of Mrs. Grundy, her preacher and her tradesmen. But the full list will give no more than a hint of the varied and vital vocabulary of the region. It may, however, serve to indicate, among other things, that vogue is a minor factor in the history of this dialectal vocabulary, that its roots are down deep and it is not fed much by the newspaper and the vaudeville.

Except as otherwise specified, each word has been heard many times. The statement that a word is in general use is based upon the testimony of students from many localities and of reliable travelers. When I have never heard the word myself I have noted the fact.

ag., n. 1. Agriculture, a course in agriculture; 2. A student of agriculture; 3. A farmer. General, but especially in college communities where it has a derogatory sense in the use of "academic" or engineering students, a good sense in the use of "ags" themselves.

ag, adj. Agricultural, or pertaining to the study of agriculture. "He is going to an *ag* school."

alumn, n. Alumnus; alumna.

barb, adj. Characteristic of a "barb," i. e., a non-fraternity man or woman. "He has *barb* manners."

beach-comber, n. One who gathers fish that are washed up, and flotsam and jetsam generally. Coast of Oregon and southern Washington.

beanery, n. Any restaurant or boarding house; a college common table. General.

beaut, n. A thing of beauty; any thing which excels in own quality. "A *beaut* of a snow-storm."

belly-buster, adv. The manner of coasting by lying on the sled on one's belly. Especially by children, but general.

big-bob, n. A long bobsled. Northern Idaho.

bit, n. Twelve and a half cents; especially in compounds, as two-bits. Disappearing except in mining and lumber camps.

blue-liz, n. Patrol wagon. Inland Empire.

bobs, n. See *big-bob*. General.

bohunk, n. Laborer from south of Europe, usually a Czech, or more eastern Slav. Northern Idaho.

bone, n. Trombone. (Heard only twice from traveling, second-rate bandmen.)

to bone, to bone up, vb. t., and intr. To study hard; to prepare a lesson with great effort. "He's *boning*." "I *boned up* my math."

bonehead, n. A stupid error. Often with the vb. *to pull*. "He pulled a *bonehead*, all right."

bucker, n. One who strips and cuts up a tree that has been felled. Probably a transplanted word; akin to "barker" of the eastern woodsmen. Western Washington.

buff, n. Girl. Southern Idaho.

bug, n. A home-made lantern used by men fishing for whitefish in the north Idaho lake district. (See *palouser*, 2.)

bull-cook, n. A male cook at a mining or lumber camp.

to bump, vb. t. To dismiss from service. General.

bunkie, n. A roommate. University of Idaho and State College of Washington.

buzz-wagon, n. A cheap automobile. General.

to can, vb. t. Ellipsis for "to tie a can to" some one. To dismiss from service. General.

case, n. 1. An "affaire de coeur" among students. 2. The object of affection in such an affair. "What do you think of my *case*? Isn't she (he) great?"

cat, n. Caterpillar traction engine. Farmers.

catty, adj. Well-dressed (of a girl); becoming (of her clothes). University of Idaho.

chapel, n. At Washington State College, an assembly of students and faculty (as many as will attend!) for purposes entirely un-religious.

Chinaman, n. The (six) revolving levers that work the grain into the thrasher. Formerly Chinese performed this function. Farmers in Walla Walla valley.

chippy, n. 1. A one-man engine for drilling in the face of a tunnel; 2. A narrow gauge railroad track or the train that runs on it. General in the Coeur d' Alenes (see below).

chix, n. Tradesman's word for chicken; usually only in writing, but frequently in speech. "A nice *chix* or two." Local.

chuck-house, n. A boarding house, in connection with a mine or mill. Coeur d' Alenes.

chuck-wagon, n. A cooking-wagon that follows a gang of harvest hands about a great ranch. General.

Coeur d' Alenes, n. (almost always with *the*), used as a singular. A district in northern Idaho, lying largely in Shoshone County, rich in mineral, named after the Coeur d' Alène Indians, probably, who were named from a valley (shaped like a coeur d' alène) in which the French found them. This history is not certain. There is also a lake, a river, and a small range of mountains called Coeur d' Alene. The French pronunciation is commonly lost: kōr di lānz; ker de lānz prevail. Inland Empire.

coeur d' alener, n. A native or an inhabitant of the Coeur d' Alenes.

Cousin Jennie, n. A Cornishwoman. Companion to the universal Cousin Jack for a Cornishman. Coeur d' Alenes.

cow college, n. A school of agriculture; an institution which includes such a school. General.

crib, n. A harlot's house. Immediate etymology possibly in fact that the restricted district is often built out over the creek upon "cribbing." Coeur d' Alenes.

cribbing, n. The crib which engineers provide to retain or support. General.

crumb, n. Bed-bug. Rare.

crummy, adj. Full of, infested with, body-lice. Lumbermen.

crumb-roll, n. A bed roll; sometimes a bed. Etymology obvious. Woodsmen; ranchmen.

Cupolo, n. Cupola. General.

cush, n. Money. "He's got the *cush*." General but disappearing.

deadun, n. A stolid person. General.

doc, n. The physical director. Used very much like Prex. "I told *doc*." "The new *doc*." "*Doc* X." General in school communities.

doghouse man, n. The man who sews sacks under a weather shelter on a combine. Farmers.

dough-gob, *dough-god*, n. A loaf of baking powder bread baked in a pan by an open fire; not always "done." Woodsmen, prospectors, etc.

dough-lab, n. The laboratory of the home economic departments.

Enakops, n. Boosters' Club for Spokane, Washington. It is an inverted spelling.

evergreen, *short-horn*, *wintergreen*, n. Student in attendance at a short, or winter, course in agriculture or mining. College communities: Washington State College; University of Idaho.

ex, n. Examination. Washington State College.

flabberdegaz, n. Talk; vain imaginings in speech. General, but rare.

fruit-tramp, n. A picker who follows the fruit harvest north and into the high valleys; implies careless workmanship. Central Washington.

gazook-strap, n. A leather thong attached to a handle, used to punish rule-breakers in "frat" houses. Washington State College.

to get, vb. t. "To do" or to revenge oneself on someone. "I've been laying for him for years; to-day I *got* him." General.

to gip, vb. t. To fleece someone; "to swipe" something. General, rare; common in college slang.

glory-hole, n. A deserted stope in a mine. Originally probably an application from the domestic use of the word; now understood to imply physical danger (the timbers are often removed when the stope is deserted) and spiritual danger from the spirits of all miners who lost their lives in the stope and now haunt it. General in the Coeur d' Alenes.

goat, n. A switch engine at a roundhouse. Eastern Washington and northern Idaho.

go-devil, n. A hand-car. General in northern Idaho, where the steep railroad grades make hand-car speeding good sport.

graveyard, n. The shift that goes into the tunnel at midnight or at two o'clock. "The *graveyard* hasn't gone in yet." Coeur d' Alenes.

graveyard, adj. Descriptive of the graveyard shift.

gym-ginks, n. An exhibition, calisthenic or other, held in a gymnasium. Washington State College.

hasher, n. A waiter in a restaurant; usually a woman. General.

hash-house, n. A restaurant or a boarding house. Miners; general.

hickey, n. A pimple on the face; limited to this. General.

high-behind, splinter-cat, n. Fabulous creatures, capable of amazing feats, that infest the sage brush when the cowpunchers hump about their fires.

high-jinks, n. A "party"; a carousal.

hog-back, n. A ridge of mountain, not very high.

hook, n. A harlot.

hook-alley, n. A restricted district.

hook-shop, n. A house in the restricted district.

horny, adj. Amative.

hour, n. A unit of credit. "I'm taking twenty *hours* this semester." College communities.

to huckleberry, vb. i. To go huckleberrying. General in mountainous regions.

huckleberry grunt, n. Huckleberry dumpling. General in northern Oregon.

hurry-up, n. A call to the dean's office. University of Idaho.

icter, n. A small or delicate thing or person. Possible etymology in *Icteria*, the genus of the common chat (icteria vireus). General.

Inland Empire, n. The territory commercially tributary to Spokane, Washington—east of the Cascades, west of the Rockies. General.

iron-man, n. A silver dollar. General.

jane, n. A girl picked up on the street; the word has a good sense also.

jazz, n. Talk; "gas." College students.

to jazz, vb. i. 1. To talk to kill time. 2. To walk about to kill time. Rare. "I *jazzed* around all forenoon."

jig, n. The man who shakes down the sacks, on a separator, for the sewer.

to jig, vb. i., t. To act as "jig"; to shake down the sacks. Palouse (see below).

joplin, n. A cut-rate laborer; a scab. Used by miners in Coeur d' Alenes. Etymology: Many of the Missourians imported from the Ozarks to break the great strikes came from Joplin.

kid-wagon, n. A carry-all which gathers in the children to the rural district schools. General.

loansome, adj. Characterizing a person given to borrowing money. Heard only twice.

lollopalouser, n. 1. Anything of excellence in its own way. 2. A great lie. General.

lolloper, n. A very bulky object; often a fat person. Variant of wolloper probably.

meet-market, n. A corner, drugstore, or other convenient place for "meeting"; especially such places at the transfer points of car lines. Spokane, Washington, and vicinity. Common but ephemeral.

Missourian, n. 1. Strikebreaker. 2. Scab. (See joplin.)

mortician, morticianer, n. Undertaker and embalmer. Central Idaho and western Washington.

mothback. An apple-raiser in the Yakima Valley. Etymology uncertain.

mucker, n. 1. A student of mining. 2. A man with a shovel in the mines.

muck-stick, n. A shovel.

muff, n. A girl. South Idaho and University of Idaho.

to mush, vb. t. To pound gingerly or to push powder into a drilled hole—no matter whether stick powder or bulk. Coeur d' Alenes.

nutty, adj. 1. Crack-brained. 2. Amatory. General.

to pack, vb. intr. To carry freight by horse. General in mountainous or roadless regions.

to paddle, vb. t. To spank, by way of punishment for breaking rules. College communities.

Palouse, the, n. The fertile, rolling region lying north of the Snake River in eastern Washington. The name is derived from the Palouse Indians whom Lewis and Clarke found at the head of the Clearwater River, who later moved westward into this region and fought a great battle with white men (so goes the tradition) along the Kamiak Ridge, and who now have been withdrawn to the Yakima Reservation. The origin of the name of the tribe has been a question. The popular derivation, taught in the schools, is from Fr. *pelouse*, a cropped lawn; and it is supposed that the tribe took its name in the French days from some circumstance of grassy hillocks, etc. But behind such a possibility is the certainty that Lewis and Clarke in their journals designated these Indians by their own name of *Pelloats Pallah* or *Pallots pallah*, and that the shortening of these forms into *Pallots* or *Pelloats* was the first step in an obvious development to the present form with its sibilant *-s*.

This long note is justified by a group of words which have gained root in the speech of the Northwest.

Palouser, n. An inhabitant of the Palouse.

palouser, n. 1. A greenhorn; a country fellow. From the fact that the Palouse is a farming country. 2. A lantern made by attaching a bale, horizontally, to an empty can and by inserting a candle through a hole in the side. 3. A gorgeous sunset. From the circumstance that the sunsets in the Palouse are very magnificent.

panbread, n. Baking-powder bread, usually cooked by the open fire. General.

pantorium, n. A tailor-shop, which specializes in "pressing-contracts." College communities.

perculate, vb. t. and i. Percolate. A general mispronunciation.

to pig, vb. i. To fuss. Heard occasionally at the Universities of Idaho and Oregon. The etymology is the Scandinavian *pige*, a maiden. "I'm going *to pig* at the Junior Prom."

pilly, adj. Tiresome. From *pill*, a tiresome person. Colleges, and general.

to pledge, vb. t. and i. 1. To secure a promise to join a given fraternity. "We *pledged* Mary Smith." 2. To promise to join. "He's *pledged*." 3. To go through a ceremony or ritual for pledging.

to prep, vb. i. To behave like a preparatory school student; to be boisterous. Often with "around." Washington State College; University of Idaho.

proc, n. A proclamation by upper classmen governing Freshmen activities.

queen, n. A girl that will fuss; one who will give her time and energy largely to social engagements. Washington State College; University of Idaho.

quill, n. An effort to secure a high mark by any method of cajolery, bluff, etc. Embalmed for an era in the sentence, "The *quill* is mightier than the pen." Washington State College.

to quill, vb. i., t. To secure, or attempt to secure, marks by a "*quill*." Often as in "*to quill* the prof."

quiller, n. One who quills.

really, n. An agate marble. Children.

to roll, vb. t. or i. To steal from a drunken or sleeping man the money he carries. "They *rolled* Mac for forty dollars at Shorty's saloon."

roomie, n. Room-mate; bed-fellow. College communities.

rough-neck, n. 1. A rowdy. 2. A woman or girl of easy morals but not a professional prostitute. 3. A dance, open to anyone who "has the price," at which "anything goes." General.

rough-stuff, n. 1. Same as eastern rough-house. 2. Doubtful conduct in sex relations. General.

rushee, n. The object of the many attentions of a frat-rush. Washington State College; University of Idaho.

to sawmill, vb. i. To shut the door. Washington State College.

to shift, n. To act as a shift-boss. "He's *shifting* now." Coeur d' Alenes.

shift-boss, n. Chief of men and operations in one stope (usually) for one shift.

shingle weaver, n. 1. A worker in a shingle mill. 2. One who shaves shingles. Western Washington.

short course, n. The winter course for special students in colleges and universities. General.

siwash, n. 1. An Indian. 2. A slovenly, lazy, drunken Indian. 3. An uncouth ruffian (white). General in eastern Washington.

siwasher, n. A siwash. Rare.

skinner, n. A good driver (on a combine or other vehicle) of many horses. Farmers.

skookum, adj. Good, fine, etc. Indian word of approval, also. General.

to sleep in, vb. i. To oversleep. General.

slicker, n. Implement for clearing summer fallow of weeds. Farmer eastern Washington.

snort, n. A large drink of whiskey. Onomatopoetic! Coeur d' Alenes.

sodbuster, n. 1. A farmer. General. 2. A student of agriculture.

spiffed, adj. Intoxicated. General.

to spread-eagle, vb. i. and t. To be thrown in spread attitude from a bucking horse; to throw a man so. Cattlemen.

stake, n. 1. A sum sufficient to support a man during the prospecting season. 2. A fortune. Coeur d' Alenes.

steam-nigger, n. A safety valve. Rare.

to step [*out*], vb. i. To go out with a jane. Usually with an unvirtuous intention. General, but especially college communities.

to stick-ear, *to slick-ear*, vb. t. To brand stolen cattle. "The Bar L Ranch *stick-eared* twenty yearlings." The variant *slick-ear* has been reported by several people. Cattlemen in northern Oregon and southern Washington.

stick-eared, adj. Of a head of cattle that has been stick-eared. "A *stick-eared* bullock."

stopper, n. A lodger for the night. General in remote settlements.

stude, n. A student. College communities.

swede, n. 1. A blunderer. 2. A piece of blunderer's work. Generally rare; common in lumber camps.

tight-wad, n. A meat dish: a thin cut rolled up with strips of bacon and fried.

timber-beast, n. A lumberman. Coast of Washington and Oregon.

timber-jack, n. Lumber-jack.

to tin-can, vb. t. To dismiss from service.

to tub, vb. t. To punish by immersion in cold water. College students.

tubbing, n. The punishment described under *to tub*.

track-work, n. Fussing as carried on by students who use the railroad tracks as paths, etc. College communities.

typewriter, n. Queen at cards. Rare.

wickiup, n. Any meagre shelter, improvised of brush, boughs, etc. Woodsmen.

wiz, whizz, n. A clever person; one very successful in his undertakings. General.

woppering, n. Huge; immense. Usually of things which should be smaller. General.

Phrases.

the burn people, n. phr. Inhabitants of a burned over area in Thurston County, Washington.

come-day, go-day, God send Sunday, adj. phr. Indolent, unambitious. General.

cut 'em loose, interj. phr. An exclamation of not very specific meaning but general use. Origin in the cow-boy cry popularized by the Grangeville Border Days.

to dangle the cat for a living, vb. phr. To drive a caterpillar engine. Farmers.

to get a fire closer, vb. phr. Test of intelligence, as in "He would *get a fire closer*." Jocose use among college students.

to get a skirmish line with(out) handles, vb. phr. See above.

to get a stope wrench, vb. phr. Test of intelligence in the idiom of the mine. Coeur d' Alenes.

to grab a handful of rods, vb. phr. To beat one's way on the freight-beams. General.

his hamlets, n. phr. An amateur actor of talent; or of leading parts. Washington State College.

human buzz saw, n. phr. A person of irresistible physical force or prowess; a person of great ability.

to meet up with, vb. phr. To meet and have a prolonged conversation or associated with. "I *met up with* him and we loafed around," in which the second clause is really only explanatory. General but unusual.

to put the board in the hole, vb. phr. To shut the door. General slang.

the Revival of Learning, n. phr. The period of studious activity just before examinations. Washington State College.

to ride the cushions, vb. phr. Used by college students in antithesis to bumming one's way. To travel first class.

three fingers in a bath tub, n. phr. A very large drink of whiskey. General.

BENJAMIN H. LEHMAN.

Cambridge, Mass.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, 1917.

The Society met, Professor C. H. Grandgent presiding, in Lampson Hall, 27th December, at 5.30 P. M., owing to the protracted first session of the Modern Language Conference. Twenty-seven were present. Owing to the lateness of the hour, current business and the auditing of the Treasurer's Statement were referred to the Executive Committee. The officers of the preceding year were reëlected, with Mr. R. W. Gordon as Treasurer, vice Professor G. D. Chase resigned. The papers of Mr. Lehman and Professor Pound were heard with much interest, and the discussion would have been extended, had time permitted.

The program of the annual meeting follows:

(Annual meeting, in joint session with the Modern Language Association, at *Yale University* on the afternoon of Thursday, 27th December, 1917, Room 16, Lampson Hall.)

Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Statement.

Business and election of officers for 1918.

Papers:

MR. PAUL CARHART: Notation for Recording Pronunciation.
MR. B. H. LEHMAN: Odd Terms in use in the Northwest.
PROF. LOUISE POUND: Favorite Affixes in Contemporary Word Coinage.

Discussion: Methods of combining dialect study with classes of instruction in oral English and phonetics. PROF. C. H. GRANDGENT and others.

PERCY W. LONG, *Secretary.*

DIALECT NOTES.
Volume V, Part II, 1919.

A WORD-LIST FROM THE SOUTH

The following words and dialectic peculiarities were picked up in Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, Arkansas and Oklahoma. With the exception of Virginia and Oklahoma, most of the material of this brief collectanea was found in mountainous sections; that is, southeastern Kentucky, eastern Tennessee, western North Carolina and northwestern Arkansas, in the Ozarks. Many of the words from Kentucky will be followed by the counties in which they were found.

Many of the words and peculiarities found among the Cherokee Indians are common to a number of the thirty or more Indian tribes of Oklahoma. It is estimated that seventy-five per cent of the public school teachers of Oklahoma who have Indian blood in their veins are of this tribe. "Blanket Indians" are no longer found among the Cherokees. Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet, was a member of this tribe. The Cherokee full-blood, speaking in his own tongue, makes almost no use of the labial possibilities so common to other languages. Pronouncing the word "Tah-le-quah" (capital of the old Cherokee Nation), his lips hardly move.

In the broken English of the Cherokees, it will be observed that the pronouns are used indiscriminately, without regard to sex or case. The pronoun is also a stumblingblock with the other Indian tribes. It is remarkably singular, and perhaps difficult to understand why the pronoun *it,* aside from its impersonal use, should be so commonly employed by the various Indian tribes of North America. *That* is often used for *the,* or *those,* or else is tautological. As, *"That* hills, he's steep." *"That* Muskogee town, 'way fun (from) here." The Indian omits many words that are not entirely necessary in his conversation. The articles are commonly omitted. Difficulty is often experienced in the Oklahoma

courts, where Indians are slow to testify in broken English, being very sensitive because of the laughter it provokes. Thus interpreters are often called in.

English slang throws many obstacles in the Indian's path. Not only does the redman fail to thoroughly understand this slang, but he makes ludicrous blunders attempting to employ it. Thus a Cherokee "buck," hearing a white man say, "I'm a 'blowed up sucker,'" attempted, later, to express the predicament in which he found himself, and said, "Me busted fish!"

KENTUCKY

a-goin' on, v. phr. Approaching, drawing near (when giving one's age). "I'm thirteen, *a-goin' on* fourteen. Knott Co., and elsewhere.

aggerfret, v. To aggravate, or fret. Slang. Knott Co.

amberosia, n. Metathesis for ambrosia, an odorific yard flower, sometimes called "seasash." Perry Co.

appearently, adv. Apparently. Knott Co.

back-track, v. To retrace one's steps. "Atter walkin' clean down to the settle*mints*, he *back-tracked* hisself plum' back to the mountains." Knott and Wolfe.

bark, v. To fire, or go off, as of a gun. "'Bout that time his gun begun to *bark*." Knott Co.

big house, n. (1) The large, or living house, as opposed to the summer kitchen, "smoke house," etc., located away from the living house. (2) In a house of two or more rooms, the largest one is thus designated. House is synonymous with room, and a dwelling of more than one room is often called "houses." Knott Co.

bread, v. "Uncle Roger's got corn enough to *bread* 'im, and hogs enough to meat 'im fer two year."

bread-eatin'est, adj. phr. Applied to one with a good capacity for eating bread. A familiar example of the mountaineer's fondness for using the superlative suffix attached to a present participle, rather than to make use of a preceding adverb. Sometimes this suffix is attached to a past participle, as in "That's the *torn-downdest* ole shack of a house aroun' here." Knott Co.

burning spring, n. Any spring, or opening in the ground out of which oil or gas escapes.

but, prep. Transposed, as in "Corn bread? Shucks! that's jist what we ain't got nothin' else of *but*."

call, v. Used in inquiring after one's name, as, "How did ye say ye *called* yer name?" Knott Co.

catch, n. A lifter for stove caps. Knott Co.

cat-tracks, n. Trachoma, "sore-eyes," etc. Knott Co. The figure is perhaps derived from the red spots and streaks seen in the eyes.

certificate, n. Stressed on the final syllable. Sometimes applied to an applicant for a certificate to teach school. "Here's my boy, perfessor, take 'im an' make a *certificate* out'n 'im." Knott Co.

chicken-eatin' sow, n. phr. Vulgar name applied to sows, the sharp pointed "appendix" just under the tail representing the bill of a chicken which the sow has eaten! Knott Co.

civilly, adv. Certainly, positively, indeed. "I jist *civilly* had to git up an' light a rag fer home." Knott and Perry counties.

clabber, n. Used in the figure, "Steve ups with a cant-hook an' knocks him as cold as *clabber*." Knott Co.

cleverly, adv. Barely. "'Lish's Rob's jist *cleverly* begun to crap (farm)." Knott Co.

cluck, v. To click, as of the trigger of a gun. "Marion started to draw his shootin' arn (iron), an' when she come, she come *a-cluckin'*." Knott Co.

co'-cola, n. Coca-cola. Knott Co.

condition, n. Addition (to a house). A hospitable old man in Harlan County said: "Thought'd make a *condition* to my house, so's my friends c'n 'liminate aroun', an' I c'n be more *horstile* (hospitable) to 'em."

cut a skive, to, v. phr. To prance about considerably. Applied to an "ambitious" (fiery) horse. Knott Co.

cut a rusty, to, v. phr. Slang, variously used, such as to "cut a shine," etc. Knott Co.

depart, v. To part, as between two persons. "Nance an' Sal *departed* from each other yistiddy." (Cf. The Faerie Queene, and 16th century balladry.) Knott Co.

destroy, v. intr. To become, or get destroyed. "If hit don't stop rainin', them taters 'll *destroy*." Knott Co.

disfurnish, v. To inconvenience, or discommode. Knott Co. Also Va.

dominacker, n. A species of chicken (Dominique, or Domenico?). Also *dominecker*. Sometimes clipped to *dommer*.

down the line, adv. phr. Heard along the mountain railroads. So also "up the line." Common in modern broadsides and ballads.

engineer, v. "That ole Liz ken *engineer* more trouble among the men folks than anybody." Knott Co.

ever who, pron. Transposition for whoever. "He give it to Cece er Mos, one, *ever who* I was with." Perry Co.

faludgin, n. [Cf. *falutin*.] "Aunt Sallie shouted all over the church, an' got *faludgin*." (Pro. fa-loo-gin.) Knott Co.

fat, n. Lard. Knott Co.

fiddlers in hell, n. phr. Familiar figure, heard in "Thick as fiddlers in hell."

forgainst, prep. Against. "Over *forgenst* the mountain."

gammick, v. To play, gambol (of children). Knott Co.

git right, v. phr. A meaningless interjection or exclamation. Knott Co.

haneracker, n. The county of Henrico (Richmond), Va. Quoted by J. W. Grinstead, in *Louisville Courier-Journal.*

harricane, n. (1) Hurricane. (2) A thicket of cane, or other underbrush. Barren Co.

hick'ry grubber, n. phr. Slang for a "razor back" hog. Knott Co.

holler-horn, n. A mythical disease in cattle, which is supposed to make their horns hollow. A hole is bored in the horn with a gimlet. This custom gave rise to the epithet applied to people who have acted foolishly: "He ought to be bored for the *holler horn.*" Knott Co.

hoozle, n. and v. A drink or "swig" of liquor. (From *housel*, in the eucharist? Bell Co.

horstile, adj. Hostile. See *condition.* Harlan Co.

hardware, n. Slang for guns and pistols. Knott Co.

juice harp, n. Jew's harp. Knott Co.

kyore, v. and n. Cure. Knott Co.

'larmin', partc. Alarming. Thus spoke a hillsman of an attempted burglary: "They'll git that feller fer 'spar'cy *'larmin'* an 'timidatin'." ('spar'cy, conspiracy: 'timidatin', intimidating). Knott Co.

latter, n. Litter. Knott Co.

lay, v. intr. To lie (of the wind). "Wait till the wind *lays.*" Knott Co.

like, adj. and adv. Likely. *Like* as not it'll snow." Knott Co.

'liminate, v. [eliminate] Stay, or hang around with. Vide *condition.* Harlan Co.

lord, n. Lard. Knott Co.

mean, adj. Disreputable, of bad repute (of women). Knott Co.

meat. See *bread.* Knott Co.

might, mod. aux., with *could.* "I *might* could do it." Perry Co.

moonshine, to keep out of one's, v. phr. Not to meddle with one's business. "You git out o' my *moonshine*, and keep out."

much, adj. and adv., used as a verb. To make much of. "*Much* him up and see won't he come." Barren Co.

name, v. To mention. "He never *named* it to me." Perry Co.

nars, n. Narrows. Knott Co.

narvish, nervish, adj. Nervous. Knott Co.

optionary, adj. Optional. Knott Co.

out shift, v. To outmanage, or better provide for. Knott Co.

petition, n. Partition (of a house). Knott Co.

pilfer, v. To loaf, loiter. Knott Co.

proud, adj. Applied to a "hot" female dog, "bitch," or "slut." Knott Co.

read after, v. phr. To read, or read about. "My boy's a pyore scholar, and *reads atter* Shakespeare, and this war." Knott Co.

reezins, n. Raisins. Knott Co.

'sarn, v. Consarn, concern. "*'Sarn* his looks!" Knott Co.

scamp, v. To touch, or barely glance. "Jep cut drive with a big rock an' *scamped* Dish." Knott Co.

seasash, n. See *amberosia*. Perry Co.

severe, adj. Difficult, hard. "Hit's a *severe* walk up that 'ere creek." Letcher Co.

sharpen one's hoe, to, v. phr. To whip, "thrash." The figure has its origin in the cornfield, where a boy sometimes lags behind as he hoes corn, saying that he has a dull hoe. His father "sharpens the hoe" for him. Knott Co. In Oklahoma, "to clean one's plow."

shoot, or give up your gun. An expression often heard when some one keeps threatening to do something, and doesn't. Knott Co.

snatch-burr, n. A bothersome, flat, triangular shaped little burr. Knott Co. "Beggar lice" in Oklahoma.

'spar'cy, n. Vide *'larmin'*. Knott Co.

spit, n. Exact likeness, replica. "That chap's the very *spit* of his daddy." Knott Co.

stalded, p. and p. p. of *stall*. A survival of the inflection vowel, noted by J. W. Grinstead in the *Courier-Journal*. "Our car *stalded*." Mercer Co.

stept-mother, n. Step-mother. Noted by Grinstead.

'stificate, n. See certificate. Knott Co.

sugared dram, n. phr. A term in betting. "Bet ye a *sugared dram* I'm right." Knott Co.

sun one's moccasins, to, v. phr. To murder, kill. "Hence *sunned* Dock's *moccasins* 'bout sun-down yistiddy." Knott Co.

take a night with, v. phr. To spend, or pass a night with. Harlan Co.

tan-yard, n. Used in the expression, "He cleaned up the *tan-yard*," meaning "He 'tore things up in general.'" Knott Co.

tater-patch, n., used as a verb. "He ain't got nothin' on me, I'll *tater-patch* with ary man in this county." Knott Co.

this, adv. Just, or "jist." Intensive, in "I *this* know hit is so!" Knott Co.

thousand-legged worm, n. phr. Centipede. In Oklahoma, "santiped," and "santerfee." Knott Co.

throw knives, to, v. phr. To trade, or swap knives. The usage seems to be confined to knives. Many rimes and couplets are used when boys throw knives. E. g., "Whole blade or no trade." Knott Co.

titter, n. *Tetter*, the disease of the hands. Knott Co.

track, v. Tract (of land). Knott Co. Also E. Tenn.

trustes, n. Trusts. "I tell you, trust-es and cooperations (corporations) is wrong!"

ujinctum, the, n. Hell. Knott Co.

upheaded, adj. Shrewd, intelligent. Knott Co.

upper house, n. The house furthest up, or on the head of a stream. Perry Co.

vinigger, n. Vinegar. Stressed on the second syllable. Knott Co.

walded, preterit of the verb *wall*. Other examples are *attacted*, *drownded*, etc.

wet er dry? An expression used when boys "choose up," to see who is to get the "goes," in such games as base, round-town, bull-pen, etc. Knott Co. (Cf. the common "heads or tails?")

whenever, conj. adv. Often used for *when*. "'Possums gits fat *whenever* pawpaws gits black and ripe."

whoops and a holler, two, n. phr. A short distance. As far as the combined sounds of "two whoops and a holler" would carry? Knott Co.

wishful, adj. Hopeful. Knott Co.

ARKANSAS

elephant, n. Stressed on the final syllable.

flippum-jacks, n. Fritters, pancakes. In Kentucky, "flitters." "flapjacks." In the song "Sugar Hill":—

Great big pan o' *flippum-jacks*,
An' a little bit o' bottle o' wine,
Great big jug o' 'lasses
To feed that gal o' mine.

ginniwine, n. Genuine, stressed on the final syllable.

Jibberaltar, n. Gibraltar. "As strong as the rock of 'Jibberalter.'"

rellum, n. Dissyllabic pronunciation of *realm*. Also Ky.

NORTH CAROLINA

air, v. Are (have). The hillsmen of eastern Tennessee sometimes twit the hillsmen of northern Georgia, crediting them with the word: "You-uns ain't got ary auger, *air* ye?" The word is common among most of the hillsmen of the South.

devil a-whuppin' his wife. A sign that it is raining, and the rain drops are the tears falling from the eyes of the devil's wife!

goober (pea), n. Peanut. Also heard in Va. and Ky.

masterest, adj. Most masterful. "Zeke 'lowed ez how he'd been called to give his dream at the meetin', a-tellin' 'em how he'd dremp of drappin' down on his bendified knees in the cornfield, and a-makin' the *masterest* moanin' you ever hear."

meet up with, v. phr. To meet. Also Ky. Cf. the song, "Wild Bill Jones":—

One night as I was a-ramblin' aroun',
Met up with that Wild Bill Jones, etc.

much of a man. Frequently heard, meaning, "a 'stout,' or strong, or large man." Also Ky.

neighbor, n. Used as a verb. E. g., "I know in reason I cain't *neighbor* that feller."

shoot, n. A person almost grown. "She's a right smart *shoot* uv a gal." Also Ky.

OKLAHOMA

Arkansawyer, n. A derisive term applied to the people of Arkansas by Oklahomans. Here is a bit of typical conversation often heard in the Southwest: "Where are you from?" "Arkansas. Now laugh."

beggar-lice, n. The "snatch-burr" of Kentucky, q. v.

chic-choc, n. An Indian with a mixture of Chickasaw and Choctaw blood is thus termed by the whites.

douse, v. To put out. Thus in an early poem, or dance "call" common in the Oklahoma of earlier days:—

Shorty, shed that old sombrero,
Broncho, *douse* that cigarette,
Stop your cussin', Casimero,
For the ladies now, all set.

heft, n. Weight. In the "call," ante:—

Ladies, left hand to your sonnies,
Here we go, grand right and left,
Balance all, and swing your honeys,
Pick 'em up and feel their *heft*.

hit the lumber, to, v. phr. Again:—

S'lute your ladies all together,
Ladies opposite, the same,
Hit the lumber with your leather,
Balance all, and swing your dame.

John, n. Proper first name, applied to any male Indian by the whites.

leather, n. Shoes, or boots. Slang. Vide "hit the lumber."

light a shuck, to, v. phr. To strike out, in a hurry. "You ought to have seen that jack-rabbit *light a shuck* out across the prairie." In Kentucky, "light a rag."

Oklahoma rain, n. phr. A sand storm, common in that State.

over-jet, n. A sort of wooden frame fitting over a wagon bed, in which to place a bed for sleeping. Long used, especially by pioneers and immigrants.

plow, to clean one's, v. phr. To give one a whipping. See "sharpen one's hoe, to," under Ky.

puccoon, n. Negro pronunciation of *pecan*.

rustle, v. To herd (cattle). (2) To hunt, or find. "He lit out and *rustled* up the 'kale-seed' (money)."

sage-hen. A female dance partner. In the old "call," ante.—

Get yo' little *sage-hens* ready,
Trot 'em out upon the floor,
Line up there, you cusses, steady,
Lively, now, one couple more.

santerfee, n. Centiped. Also *santiped.*
skinner, n. Teamster. Confined to the oil fields.
twister, n. Cyclone.

SOME BROKEN ENGLISH OF THE CHEROKEE INDIANS (*OKLAHOMA*)

araound, adv. and prep. Around.
crap, n. Crop (corn, etc.)
Daown, adv. Down.
fun, prep. From.
haf, v. Have.

he. With such pronouns as *her, him* and *his,* is used indiscriminately, without regard to gender. "That day, *he's* hot." An old Cherokee, replying to a salutation, and to an inquiry as to the health of his wife, said: "*He* some better, now, *him* stand up in bed an' eat coffee." The difference between words of opposite meanings is difficult for the Indian to understand. This same old Cherokee, after removing further down the street of his town, was thus approached one day by a neighbor: "Well, Soggy, I see you've moved. "Yeah, move *higher down.*"

heap, adv. and n. A word much used by the Indians. Often it is used with *much.* "White man work *heap,* raise it *heap much* cotton." "*Heap* big storm blow it in Indian's face." "*Heap* Indians attend it big council."

hees, pron. His.

it, pron. Used "heap much" among the Indians of nearly all tribes. Usually it should be omitted. "Heavy is *it* load big Indian pack town." "Git *it* up an' ride, John."

'lotment, n. Clipped form of *allotment.*

mon' n. Money. "Indian no can make it mon' 'nuff to burn it pocket like white man."

maybe-so, adv. Maybe. "*Maybe-so* me go work, too."

'n 'en, adv. phr. And then.

no, adv. Used with other negatives. E. g., "Squaw *no* never lie 'raound same like white woman without work it heap." (2) Used with *can,* as in: "Agent *no* can send it mon' quick 'nuff fer Indian."

poot', adv. Pretty (preceding some other word, such as: *poot'* near, *poot'* fast, etc.). *Pooty* good is also heard.

push, v. To hurry up.

same like, conj. adv. Same as. "Indian like it mon' *same like* white man."

standunder, v. Understand.

that, pron. Often superfluous, as in "*That* Tahlequah town." (2) Used for *the*, or *those*: "*That* hills yonder."

um (*'em*), pro. It (superfluous). "Ketch *um* big jack-rabbit, John."

TENNESSEE

aught, n. Naught, the figure zero. Also Ky.

deown, adv. Down.

devilmint, v. "That boy keeps on devilmintin'."

disobleegin', adj. Disobliging.

eegit, n. Idiot. "He's a plum' *eegit*."

ef, conj. If. Also Ky. and Va.

fistes, n. pl. Fists.

given, to be, v. phr. Ordained, "called." "He 'lowed ter me ez he *hev* been giv' ter view strange sights a many a time in them fogs an' sich." —Charles Egbert Craddock, in A Prophet of the Great Smoky Mountain.

gran'-pappy, n. Grand-father. "Ef this track o' land war sich, ef' 'twar so, 'twar before my pappy's er my *gran'-pappy's* time." *Journal of American Folk-Lore.*

pappy, n. Father.

peety, v. and n. Pity.

pot, v., pret. and p.p. of *put*.

roach, v. To comb (the hair) straight back.

shootin' fixin's, n. Guns, pistols, etc.

track, n. Tract (of land). Also Ky.

'twar, v. 'Twere, 'twas.

war, v. Was, were.

VIRGINIA

afred, adj. Afraid.

arsh, adj. Cool, brisk (of the air). Harsh?

caa, n. Car.

carry, v. To escort, conduct. Common elsewhere in the South, notably in Tennessee. A girl is "carried" to church.

cent, n. Cents. This use of the singular for the plural is quite common in Chesterfield and Henrico counties. "Those eggs cost forty *cent* a dozen."

disfurnish, v. To inconvenience, or discommode.

lay off, v. phr. To purpose, intend, aim. "I've been *laying* off to visit you, for some time." Also common in western Va. and eastern Ky.

life, n. The *i* in this and other words is given an unusually long sound. Thus we have: *li-eef*, *whi-eet*, *i-eece*, *ni-eece*, etc.

Monticello, n., pronounced Mon-ti-chel-lo. This pronunciation is by no means universal in Virginia, where the majority of people prefer the English pronunciation.

out, adv., pronounced *ow-oot*. Similarly, "a-bowoot," "how-ooce," "ni-eece" and "ri-eet."

oot, adv. Out—a word, along with "a-boot," with which the Virginian is sometimes twitted. Yet it is actually heard in that State.

right, adv. (pronounced ri-eet). This word is used "right much" in the James River country. Elsewhere, in the Southern mountains, it is common, but in different connections. Two phrases are dear to the heart of the Virginian: "Right much," and "right many." In the hills one hears "right regular" (ante, Ky.), "right smart" (much), "right smart an' grain," and "right smart 'n'" (right smart and).

right many, right much, adv. phr. See *right*.

scimption, n. A small thing. "That's a small *scimption*," equivalent to "I should worry."

smidgin, n. A very small portion. "Give me just a *smidgin* of your apple." Also Ky.

snaps, n. Green beans in the pod. From "snap beans," likely.

to, prep., pronounced with long o. Good Early English—and Virginian.

yawl, pron. *You-all*.

JOSIAH H. COMBS.

Hindman, Kentucky.

HOBO CANT

The following expressions have for some years been current among hobos infesting transcontinental railroad lines.

boil up, v. phr. To wash oneself and boil one's clothes.
booze fighter. A 'dope' fiend.
brakie, n. A trainman.
bull, n. A policeman. Also *John Law*.
chronicer, n. A back door beggar.
crib, n. Dive.
crip, n. Short for *cripple*.
crocus, n. A doctor.
crummy, adj. Lousy.
dago red. Wine as bought in California wineries.
flop, v. i. To lie down to rest.
flybull, n. A detective.
Galway. The Catholic priests.
gat, n. Gun.
gay cat. One not to be trusted.
glaum, v. i. To steal. *Glaumed, to be*, to be arrested.
glims, n. pl. Spectacles.
graft, n. Work.
hay bag. A woman hobo.
hook, n. A 'crook.'
hoop, n. A ring.
hops, n. pl. *Dope*.
jiggeroo, interj. =*Cheese it:* a warning to be careful or escape.
John Law. A policeman.
lam, v. i. To run.
monacer, n. A road name. The *monacer* gives the state and a characteristic adjective, as Mass. Blacky, Illinois Slim. It is chalked or carved on water tanks and station buildings with the direction bound and date. Thus, "Curley Monte, Bound South, Sept. 1st, '95, Detroit Brock [*i. e.* pock marked], tail on [*i. e. follow*]."
mouch, v. i. To beg.
Mulligan, n. Stew made on a campfire, containing whatever is obtainable.
mush faker. Umbrella mender: limited to "Slang, Eng." in the Standard.
peat, n. A safe.
peatman. A safe-blower.
Pennsylvania feathers. Coke.
poke-out, n. Food in a paper bundle. Also *hand-out* and *lump*.

punk, n. 1. Bread. 2. A 'kid' hobo.
red eye. Whiskey.
sag, n. and v. Club.
shine, n. A negro.
shiv, n. A razor.
sit-down, n. A meal sitting down. "A *sit-down*, with hot Java."
side kicker. A pal.
slops, n. pl. Beer.
stem, n. Street. "Main *stem*."
stoop tobacco. Cigar stumps picked up in the streets.
strides, n. pl. Trousers.
super, n. A watch. [The Standard Dict. labels it 'Slang, Eng.']
white line. Alcohol and water.

F. H. SIDNEY.

AN AMERICAN GLOSSARY: A SPECIMEN PASSAGE

When I published my "American Glossary" six years ago, no one was more conscious than I, that it was imperfect. For one thing, I had examined the debates in Congress only as far down as the year 1863, when the *Congressional Globe* had not yet been succeeded by the *Congressional Record.* But I was in a dilemma. I had collected material enough to make two volumes; and more than two could not safely be ventured on. So I must either stop where I was, or else go on and gain space by cutting down the illustrative citations. The latter I could not bear to do. There are for example thirty-three illustrations of that precious though obsolete expression, 'half horse, half alligator.' There are sixty of the word 'Yankee,' probably the largest consecutive list yet compiled. And all these are characteristic, ranging over a series of years. And the multitude of such illustrations gives the Glossary its value.

But publication is one thing, and compilation is another. I issued the book, with all its imperfections on its head. I did not cease the collection of Americanisms. So I have now in manuscript, in orderly shape, as much as would make a third volume. And early in 1917 I made an appeal to a large number of wealthy Americans,—this was before we were in the war,—to help the venture financially. To their lasting infamy, they were uniformly too unappreciative to respond. Yet ten of these men, subscribing a thousand dollars apiece, could have guaranteed the success of this record of American self-expression. However, I am far from regretting the time thus spent, for it has not been wasted. As I cannot issue a third volume, I add here, by the courtesy of the society, a sample of what that volume, if printed, would contain.

RICHARD H. THORNTON.

(Dates in brackets refer to matter already in print.)

Sabbath-day houses. These were small two-roomed houses, built not far from a meeting-house, in order to afford shelter and warmth and opportunity for a meal during the interval between morning and afternoon services. They were locked up during the week. Two families often united

in building a house. Mr. H. E. Scudder thinks that these houses were peculiar to Connecticut. See Dr. Fowler's History of Durham, Conn., pp. 97, 98.

Sachem (1805). This song was sung at the London Tavern, March 4, 1803, the anniversary of Jefferson's inauguration. *Georgia Republican*, May 12, 1803, p. 3/4.

saloonist. A saloon-keeper. Uncommon.

1885—The *saloonist* would be in constant trouble if he could not sell beverage spirits from the medicinal spirits bottle, or medicinal spirits from the beverage spirits bottle. Two bottles for the same article is one too many. Mr. G. E. Seney, House of Repr., Jan. 5: *Cong. Record*, p. 11/2 App.

Salt River (1833-1860). Compare the Glossary citations, 1784 to 1837:

1848—My visions of the White House yield
To old *Salt River's* shore.

—"Cass' Lament." Wilmington (N. C.) *Commercial*, Oct. 3, p. 1/5.

1848—There is a Locofoco who desires to take passage in the Ocean Monarch for *Salt River, Id.*, Nov. 18, p. 2/3.

1884—[Mr. White of Ky.] offered an amendment to the bill appropriating the sum of $40,000 for the improvement of Salt River, Ky. It is an old but a good joke. . . . He said he wanted to improve that river for the benefit of the Democratic party. Well, we have not *gone up Salt River*,—not far or much. The magnetic statesman from Maine [Mr. Blaine] and his co-ordinates and companions have *gone up—Salt River*— with all the meanders thereof. Mr. S. S. Cox of N. Y., the same, Dec. 12: *Cong. Record*, p. 216/1.

salted down. Reduced to a compact and available shape. Term derived from the laying by of meat for winter use.

1890—He said he had all the proofs of his wounds and sufferings '*salted down*.' Mr. J. R. Hawley of Conn., U. S. Senate, June 23: *Cong. Record*, p. 6384/1.

Sam (1855-1860). 1866—I never had anything to do with the Know-Nothings except in 1854. I was a candidate for the Legislature, and just at the close of the polls I looked back over my shoulder, and saw '*Sam*' a short distance behind. Mr. Philip Johnson of Pa., House of Repr., Jan. 18: *Cong. Globe*, p. 308/1.

Sam Patch (1827-1854). 1891—*Sam Patch* said, when about to jump the falls of Niagara, that 'some things could be done as well as others,' but he found that jump was not one of them. Mr. Justin S. Morrill of Vt., U. S. Senate, Jan. 6: *Cong. Record*, p. 947/1.

sand-bag, v. See *Sand-Bagger*.

1901—[In reference to appropriations] this District is lying in wait, as it were, from one year's end to the other, awaiting an opportunity to *sand-bag* the public. Mr. W. W. Rucker of Mo., House of Repr., Jan. 23: *Cong. Record*, p. 1345/1.

sand-hiller (1841-1901). 1865—She was a perfect specimens of the sand-hill 'tackey' race, sometimes called 'country crackers'. . . . She was stumpy, strong, and lean, hard-featured, horny-fisted. Never were people so aided in every way as these *sand-hillers*. Why do they remain *sand-hillers* from generation to generation? Mrs. Chestnut, 'A Diary from Dixie,' p. 401 (1905).

1865—Whether the North Carolina 'dirt-eater,' or the South Carolina '*sand-hiller*,' or the Georgia 'cracker,' is lowest in the scale of human existence, would be difficult to say. Letter in the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, dated from Fort Valley, Ga., Nov. 15: *Cong. Globe*, Jan. 1866, p. 552/1.

1866—See *Clay-Eater*. 1875—See *Tar-heels*.

sand-lot orators. Men of the type of Dennis Kearney, who in 1878 'orated' on the San Francisco sand-lots against Chinese immigration.

1893—Mr. Geary: I understand the gentleman from Mass. to say that it is only people of the '*sand-lot*' type of orators who favor the treatment of the Chinese proposed by the legislature now in force. . . . Are we to understand that the entire State of California are [*sic*] to be classed with the type of people whom he denominates '*sand-lot orators*'? House of Repr., Oct. 13: *Cong. Record*, p. 2495/2.

sang-hoe.

1888—The '*sang-hoe*' is a small hoe of domestic manufacture with which the people dig ginseng root, which is the only agricultural staple of a portion of the mountain district in southeastern Kentucky. Mr. W. D. Kelley of Pa., House of Repr., May 1: *Id.*, p. 3587/2.

sardine (1856-1857). 1870—The name for a spindling little fellow, whom the plainsman does not wish to compliment, is 'You Sardine.' F. H. Ludlow, 'The Heart of the Continent,' p. 1118.

saskatoon. The service-berry,—applied to other berries.

1902—*saskatoon*. The name in the Canadian Northwest for a species of berry and the bush on which it grows. The word is of Blackfoot origin. *Jour. Am. Folk-Lore*, p. 257.

savagerous (1832-1866). 1850—Of all the untiring, unaccountable, and unspeakable '*savagerous*' rumpuses ever kicked up, Cape Horn takes the banner. Wilmington (N. C.), *Commercial*, March 7, p. 1/6. (From the *Yankee Blade*.)

Savannah (1705-1854).

1673—A *sevanoc* with the land about it for three or four miles. Records of the Grand Council, March 4: *So. Car. Hist. Mag.*, xi. 80.

1674—Hickery land w^th^ divers spatious *savanas*, *Id.*, p. 83.

1822—Dr. Turnbull, the founder of New Smyrna, upwards of forty years ago, dispatched an expedition over land to the head of the [St. John's river]. He employed his relation, Mr. Andrew Turnbull, who . . . pursued the eastern bank of the river, until he reached the great *savanna* mentioned by Captain Leconte. . . . The *savanna*, in many parts, has the

appearance of a beautiful lake, whose purple expanse, bordered by lofty groves or level fields of reeds, afforded a novel and pleasing prospect. Though two or three feet deep in water, in many places, I was told that it is often quite dry in summer. 'Notices of East Florida,' pp. 23, 24, 48 (Charleston, S. C.).

saw gourds. To snore.

1870—In five minutes, we were all '*sawing gourds*' together in the land of Nod. F. H. Ludlow, 'The Heart of the Continent,' p. 91.

saw wood (1909).

1894—Is it possible that the framers of the bill hold a grudge against the voters who '*sawed wood*' last November? Mr. J. F. Lacey of Iowa, House of Repr., Jan. 24: *Cong. Record,* p. 1347/2.

saw-grass. A marsh-plant with culms from four to eight feet high, and long slender saw-toothed leaves. Southern (Century Dict.).

1822—They were obliged to defend their horses' feet with wrappings of cow-hide, in order to prevent their being injured by the sharp *saw-grass,* a species of triangular reed, with which this watery desart is thickly overgrown. Notices of E. Florida, p. 24 (Charleston, S. C.)

1858—The *saw-grass* was so high as partially to protect the bodies of our men from view. Joshua R. Giddings, 'The Exiles of Florida.' p. 176.

sawyer (1801-1857).

1816—There are many *sawyers* [in the Mississippi], *i. e.* trees fastened by the branches or roots to the bottom of the river, which saw up and down by virtue of the pressing of the water. Lorenzo Dow, 'Journal,' § 1010. (Ed. 1850, p. 157/1.)

say, to have one's. To have one's will carried into execution.

1891—If I *had my say,* I would stop the immigration of Mormons, communists, anarchists, nihilists, bomb-throwers, paupers, lunatics, and idiots. Mr. E. A. Morse of Mass., House of Repr., March 2: *Cong. Record,* p. 3777/1.

Saybrook Platform (1863).

1879—Over all this life religion, as understood in that day, maintained a strict and sleepless watch; and all the people squared their daily walk and conversation by its teachings. The '*Saybrook platform*' was the formula into which the really liberal principles of their religion had been cramped and crowded. Mr. Henry L. Dawes of Mass., U. S. Senate, Feb. 21: *Cong. Record,* p. 1715/1. (Speech on the decease of Gen. Alpheus S. Williams of Conn.)

say-so (1804-1862). Almost obsolete in England.

1876—When you rely on another then we will come back to his *say-so.* Mr. S. J. Randall of Pa., House of Repr., May 19: *Cong. Record,* p. 3199/2.

1890—We need not depend on anybody's *say-so* for proof of all this. Mr. G. W. Atkinson of W. Va., the same, May 9: *Id.,* p. 4432/1.

scalawag (1851-4). In 1851 Mr. Cartter of Ohio, in the House of Representatives talked of a 'pack of poor *scatterwags.*' The word is probably traceable to the old Sc. *scurryvaig;* for Gavin Douglas, holder of 'the bishopric of fair Dunkeld,' in 1513 classes together 'Swingcouris and *scurrevagis,* swankers and swanis,' precisely in our sense: Eneados, Ed. Small, 1874, Prologue to Book VIII, p. 144.

1867—[I heard Mr. Blaine say]: 'There will be no impeachment by this Congress; we would rather have the president [Johnson] than the *shallywags* (*sic*) of Ben Wade': Mr. Thaddeus Stevens of Pa., House of Repr., March 23: *Cong. Globe,* p. 317/1. (Mr. Blaine replied, that Mr. Stevens had heard only a part of the conversation.)

1868—The stranger, the minority, the untutored negro with no capacity for self-government, the *scalawag,* and the carpet-bagger,—I would not have used these phrases if the honorable Senator from Mass. himself had not introduced them,—have usurped those State governments. Mr. Garrett Davis of Ky., the same: *Id.,* p. 85/2.

1869—In my state I am called a '*scalawag,*' and why? Because I support the Government and its laws. A '*scalawag*' there means a citizen carpet-bagger. . . . My ancestry, I guess, were carpet-baggers. It was a lot of 'carpet-baggers' that landed on Plymouth Rock. William Penn and Henry Clay were 'carpet-baggers.' Daniel Boone was a 'carpet-bagger.' . . . The truly loyal people of Arkansas extend a hearty welcome to all loyal 'carpet-baggers' who may come among them. '*Scalawags*' are on the increase there. Mr. J. T. Elliott of Ark., House of Repr., Feb. 2: *Id.,* p. 126/2, App.

1871—Those who were born in the South and remained faithful to the Government, or have since joined the Republican party, are stigmatized as the '*scalawags,*' or low persons of the baser sort. Mr. Oliver P. Morton of Ind., U. S. Senate, April 4: *Id.,* p. 253/3, App.

1872—See *Order, in short.* 1876—See *Freedman's Bureau.*

scalp.

1872—[This Hall is not], as the honorable Senator from Mass. of to-day would have it, an arena for the exhibition of *political scalps.* Mr. T. W. Tipton of Neb., Feb. 16: *Id.,* p. 1076/3.

scalping tickets. See *ticket-scalper.*

scattering (1798-1869).

1867—Is not the President of the U. S. bound to respect the great mass of this Senate, those in favor of him hardly numbering enough to count as '*scattering*'? Mr. James W. Nye of Nevada, U. S. Senate, April 12: *Cong. Globe,* p. 837/3.

1879—The fifty-eight persons who voted against me were, I think, *scattering* democrats. Mr. Mex. H. Stephens of Georgia, House of Repr., June 10: *Cong. Record,* p. 1904/2.

school-ma'am (1840-1906).

1871—Only a short time since, a Yankee *school-marm* [in Mass.] was stoned and murdered by her own pupils. Mr. A. E. Garrett of Tenn., House of Repr., April 5: *Cong. Globe*, p. 205/3.

scissorbill. See quotation.

1913—[The hobo] encounters among his many enemies his pet aversion, the *scissorbill.*

Note: *scissorbill* is a localized slang term. Here it refers to the 'home-guard' worker, who is filled with bourgeoise (*sic*) ideas and ethics. It ordinarily describes a worker who has some source of income other than wages. Correspondence of the *Industrial Worker*, Spokane, Wash., May 1, p. 5/3.

scoop. In newspaper.

1876—[It may have been] necessary to pop down upon that identical reservation, and, as they say out West, *scoop* it. Mr. G. F. Edmunds of Vt., U. S. Senate, July 19: *Cong. Record*, p. 4718/2.

1878—[It was understood that these railroad directors and others] had, as they say out West, '*scooped* the whole concern.' The same, April 9: *Id.*, p. 2365/1.

scrap.

1900—The gentleman refers to a little '*scrap*,' so to speak, that Mr. Robbins and Mr. Aldrich had in a hotel. Mr. Martin H. Glynn of N. Y., House of Repr., March 6: *Cong. Record*, p. 115/2, App.

scrape, n. See quotation. A Carolina word.

1863—Your trees are old, and now yield little of anything but *scrape.* (Note) '*scrape*' is the turpentine gathered from the face of the pine. On old trees, the yearly incision is made high above the boxes, and the sap, in flowing down, passes over and adheres to the scarified surface. It is thus exposed to the sun, which evaporates the more volatile and valuable portion, and leaves only the hard. . . . '*Scrape*' turpentine is only about half as valuable as 'dip.' Edmund Kirke, 'My Southern Friends,' p. 131 (N. Y.).

scrapper. A fighter. Slang.

1897—Our own Jerry, the '*scrapper*' from Kansas. Mr. M. S. Peters of Kansas, House of Repr., July 19: *Cong. Record*, p. 292/1, App.

scratch a ticket (1847, 1861).

1870—It is the habit of the American voter as a rule to *scratch his ticket*, to take from it such names as do not please him. Mr. Eugene Casserly of California, U. S. Senate, May 24: *Cong. Globe*, p. 3761/1.

scrip.

1884—[The lumbermen] have long been in the habit of getting [pine land] under different forms of *scrip*, under the soldiers' additional *scrip*, under the Sioux half-breed *scrip*, under the Cherokee *scrip*, and every other damnable kind of *scrip* that could be had. Mr. K. Nelson of Minn., House of Repr., June 10: *Cong. Record*, p. 4994/2.

scrub, scrub horse. One of poor quality.

1894—It has been said that the best way to make a thoroughbred out of a *scrub horse* is to get him killed by a railroad train. Mr. Champ Clark of Mo., House of Repr., July 13: *Cong. Record*, p. 7431/1.

scuppernong. A variety of the muscadel grape. See H. W. Longfellow's poem on 'Catawba wine.'

seat, v. To settle on land. *seater.* A settler on land.

1653—Provided that such *seaters* settle advantageously for security. Journals of House of Burgesses, Virginia, I. 90 (Richmond, 1915).

1710—If persons can be allowed to claim more land than they are able to occupy, they keep out others who might *seat* the same. *Id.*, IV, 293 (Richmond, 1912).

1822.—Mr. Clay quoted several laws of the colony of Virginia, passed near two centuries ago, providing that the true owner should compensate the *seater* of land. *American Beacon* (Norfolk, Va.), Feb. 19, p. 2/2.

secesh, secessia (1862).

1864—The secessionists got hold of the meeting, and, with the wildest excitement I ever saw, passed the most violent *secesh* resolutions. Mr. McHenry of Kentucky, House of Repr., May 27: *Cong. Globe*, p. 2529/1.

1864—I have thought sometimes the Republican members of this House have doubted the loyalty of Kentucky, and looked upon the majority of the members from that State as merely 'locum tenens,' holding their positions here as a halfway house between '*secessia*' and the 'Union States.' Mr. Law of Indiana, the same, July 1: *Id.*, p. 3475/3.

seckel. Var. of *sickle.*

1872—The finest pear tree in the world is the *seckel*, the pear discovered in Pennsylvania about ninety years ago. Mr. Simon Cameron of Pa., U. S. Senate, May 27: *Cong. Globe*, p. 3900/2.

sectional (1836-1861).

1854—I do not wish to be *sectional.* I do not wish to be regarded as for the South alone. Mr. Sam Houston of Texas, U. S. Senate, Feb. 15. (Speech, as separately reported, p. 14/1.)

sectionalize. To render sectional.

1871—The South regarded the government as *sectionalized* in the election of President Lincoln. Mr. John M. Bright of Tenn., House of Repr., April 3: *Cong. Globe*, p. 420/2.

selectmen.

1804—The *select men* of the Church and society of Midway will receive proposals &c. *Georgia Republican*, May 15, p. 4/2. (It is strange to find this word so far South.)

semi-occasional, semi-occasionally (1854-1876).

1864—[Mr. Fernando Wood has had repentant moments] at long intervals and *semi-occasionally.* Mr. Dumont of Indiana, House of Repr., April 11: *Cong. Globe*, p. 1557/3.

sequi. See quotation.

1870—I found a number of *'sequis,'* or distributing ditches, already run, connecting with a small rivulet which came down from Camp Creek Cañon, Colorado. F. H. Ludlow, 'The Heart of the Continent,' p. 183.

set-up, a. Preconcerted.

1870—I think there is a *'set-up'* arrangement to make money out of the whiskey, if the tax on it can be increased. Mr. Simon Cameron of Pa., U. S. Senate, June 24: *Cong. Globe,* p. 4813/2.

seven-shooter. A fire-arm with seven chambers.

1877—They were armed with breech-loading rifles, *seven-shooters,* and had also their belts and revolvers. Mr. E. G. Lapham of N. Y., House of Repr., Feb. 28: *Cong. Record,* p. 202/2, App.

shadow, v. (1877).

1877—[Two policemen] were told to meet Mr. Dana at the depot, and, as they express it, to *'shadow'* him while he was in Washington. Report of a committee, *Cong. Record,* March 3, p. 2242/2.

Shaking Quakers (1784-1787).

1815—Like *dancing Quakers, shaking.* David Humphreys, 'The Yankey in England,' p. 87.

shanty (1820-1855).

1842—The line of tumbling wooden *shantees.* Lydia M. Child, 'Letters from New York,' p. 171 (Lond., 1843).

shape. Form, state, or condition.

1876—[This amendment is bad] because it makes patchwork of a bill which is already *in better shape.* Mr. Hurlbut of Ill., House of Repr., April 20: *Cong. Record,* p. 2664/2.

shares, on (1817, 1822).

[1733—We came to the Plantation of Joshua Nicholson, where Daniel Taylor lives *for halves.* William Byrd of Va., 'Journey to Eden,' p. 322 (1901).]

shebang (1867, 1871).

1863 (Jan.)—The soldiers . . . came out from their tents or *shebangs* of bushes with rumpled hair and half-awake look. Walt Whitman, 'Specimen Days,' p. 43 (pub. 1887).

1865—In a visit to Spanish Fort, . . . we stopped at the *'shebang'* of one of [the poor whites]. Letter of B. C. Truman to the *N. Y. Times,* from Montgomery, Ala., Oct. 23: *Cong. Globe,* Jan., 1866, p. 552/1.

sheep, v. To use as a sheep-range.

The township has little value for pasturage, as it was long ago thoroughly *'sheeped.'* . . . The lands, wherever accessible, have been *'sheeped'* so long that the grass has been exterminated. . . . Most of the township has been closely *'sheeped,'* and its grazing value is exceedingly low. U. S. Geol. Survey, Paper xxii, pp. 36, 38, 54.

1901—The country was all *sheeped off,* not a young tree growing. Mr. Charles Newhall in *The Forum,* Feb.: cited, *Cong. Record,* March 1, p. 3284/1.

sheepskin (1843-1862).

1804—Feeling some anxiety about your '*sheep-skin*,' I wrote to Merrill, and begged him to put his finger on the President's pulse. Daniel Webster to Ezekiel Webster, June 10: Private Corresp. (1857) I, 173.

sheer, a. (1799-1902). This is old Scottish. The N. E. D. has '*sheir lawn*, 1641, and '*shear muslins*,' 1706.

1513—[Mercury vanished] in the *schyre* air. (Lat., *in tenuem auram.*) Gavin Douglas, Eneados, Ed. Small, 1874, Book IV, p. 192.

1590—A fountain *shere*. 'Faerie Queene,' III, ii, 44.

sheer-boom. A boom with a sheer or curve.

1882—[The clause] for the protection of Rock Island bridge by *sheer-booms*. Mr. A. H. Buckner of Mo., House of Repr., July 8: *Cong. Record*, p. 5817/1.

1908—Ide had installed a system of *sheer-booms*. They spanned the current diagonally, and were to be the silent herders that would edge the log-flocks away from the banks, and keep them running free. Holman Day, 'King Spruce,' p. 334 (Century Dict.).

shell game. The swindling trick known in England as 'thimblerig.' In America, walnut shells are commonly used.

1899—For one time in my life I ran up against a *shell game*. . . . It is that old game in which now you see it and now you don't see it; and you cannot guess what shell the ball is under. Mr. W. L. Greene of Neb., House of Repr., Jan. 24: *Cong. Record*, p. 1009/2.

shenanigan, -ging. Nonsense, tomfoolery. See Dial. Notes, III, 568.

1872—How long have you been playing this *shenaniging?* Examination of Theodore Jaques by Mr. Carpenter. *Cong. Globe*, March 3, 1873: p. 2107/2.

sherrivallies (1802, 1833).

1825—A tailor's advertisement in a Springfield, Mass., paper, says Alice Morse Earle, reads thus:

> *Shorrevals* and overalls
> And Pantaloons he'll make.

—'Journal of Am. Folk-Lore,' 1891, IV. 354.

shingle (1842-1857).

1852—Hiram Powers, whose '*shingle*,' as we express it, hangs out [in Florence] to indicate his studio. Thurlow Weed, 'Letters,' p. 508 (pub. 1866).

shingled. Covered with encumbrances, as a roof is with shingles.

1869—Where else [than in the U. S.] are great cities built upon a soil *shingled* with mortgages drawing enormous rates of interest? Where before ever did the world behold so much financial success founded upon so much financial ruin? Mr. John Coburn of Indiana, House of Repr., Jan. 7: *Cong. Globe*, p. 239/1.

shin around. To go about trying to borrow money.

1890—They have bitten off more than they can chew, to use a vulgar expression, and they find a difficulty in *shinning around* to borrow money. Mr. John Sherman of Ohio, U. S. Senate, Sept. 18: *Cong. Record*, p. 10188/2.

ship's lawyer. A lawyer of no great skill; a 'horse lawyer.'

1894—You remember [how Judge Turner of Georgia] examined me . . . publicly here in this House, and decided that I might pass as *'ship's lawyer'* to practice in this court. . . . Mr. J. H. Walker of Mass., House of Repr., May 31: *Cong. Record*, p. 5547/2. (See also p. 5551/1.)

shipwreck. A shipwrecked person. Rare.

1896—American labor cherishes its constitutional rights of 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness' and will never deny them to others. It will never kick *shipwrecks*, while attempting to board our well-supplied craft, back into the roaring sea. Mr. Richard Bartholdt of Missouri, House of Repr., May 19: *Cong. Record*, p. 5423/2.

shirk for oneself (1843, 1850).

1863—[I let you go] down ter newbern, an' *shirk for you'self.* Edmund Kirke, 'My Southern Friends,' p. 116 (N. Y.).

1864—"How do you get on *shirking* for yourself?" I asked; "You are very old." Edmund Kirke, 'Down in Tennessee,' p. 126 (N. Y.).

shoe string district, the. The Sixth Congressional District in Mississippi, constructed irregularly for political purposes in 1874.

1878—I will promise to meet [Mr. Lapham] on the northern border of the *'shoe-string district,'* and to escort him safely to its southern extremity. Mr J. R. Chalmers of Miss., House of Repr., June 13: *Cong. Record*, p. 478/2, App.

shoo-fly.

1888—When Ben Butler *'shoo-flied'* into silence the bantam of the Democracy [Mr. S. S. Cox], people had reason to believe that he would forever cease to pose as a funny man. Mr. W. Woodburn of Nevada, House of Repr., June 11: *Cong. Record*, p. 5114/2.

shotted. Equipped with artillery.

1894—[North Carolina] left 764 dead soldiers scattered over those *shotted* hills [of Gettysburg]. Mr. M. W. Ransom of No. Car., U. S. Senate, Aug. 8: *Cong. Record*, p. 8294/1.

shoulder-hitter, shoulder-striker (1858). Also *shoulder-hitting.*

1867—Are we so used to Presidental *shoulder-hitting*, that we will neither fend off nor strike back? Mr. Charles D. Drake of Mo., U. S. Senate, Dec. 10: *Cong. Globe*, p. 102/1.

1869—[The system of examinations in the civil service] will exclude the *shoulder-hitter*, the garroter, the repeater, the pipe-layer, the ballot-box smasher, the false oath taker, the ward-room bully, the primary meeting manager, the ballot changer, the smuggler, the rioter, the peculator, the

gambler, the thief. Mr. Thomas A. Jenckes of Rhode Island, House of Repr., April 5: *Id.*, p. 521/1.

1893—There are other people in this country besides the repeaters. the *shoulder-strikers*, and the tigers of New York City. Mr. W. W. Bowers of Cal., House of Repr., Oct. 3: *Id.*, p. 2096/2.

shuck-pen (1848).

1848—[They] put me in a *shuck-pen* to keep the hogs from eating me. Wilmington (N. C.) *Commercial*, May 25, p. 1/5.

shun-pike (1862).

1853—Some of this very loan is to be applied to the Oswego Canal, which has been called a '*shun-pike.*' Mr. W. McMurray in the New York State Senate, March 28: p. 17/1, of speech as separately published.

side, on the. Surreptitiously.

1893—He will have no pension attorney, for a silent partner, no relative doing business '*on the side*' with that bureau. Mr. M. R. Baldwin of Minnesota, House of Repr., Dec. 18: *Cong. Record*, p. 360/1.

side-show.

1876—Mr. Banks:—Why should we undertake . . . to set up a celebration of our own? Mr. Conger:—A mere *side-show.* Mr. Banks:—Yes, as the gentleman from Michigan well suggests, a '*side-show.*' House of Repr., June 30: *Cong. Record*, p. 4304/2.

side-swipe. To strike, not full tilt, but with the edge or side of that which strikes.

1912—Portland Express Cars Derailed—Then *Sideswiped* by Freight [Train], *N. Y. Ev. Post*, Nov. 18, p. 3/5. (Head-lines.)

1913—Freight Train Sideswipes Passenger Car on Vandalia line. *Id.*, Aug. 28, p. 1/7 (ditto).

silent man, the. An epithet applied to General Grant.

1879—The distinguished friend of '*the silent man*' of 1868 and 1872. Mr. E. S. Bragg of Wisconsin, House of Repr., April 24: *Cong. Record*, p. 854/1.

RICHARD H. THORNTON.

A WORD LIST FROM THE NORTHWEST

[The following word list was collected chiefly in the summer of 1917 in and near Seattle. The sources are both oral and written. The local newspapers cited are of 1917 chiefly; E. I. Denny's "Blazing the Trail" is cited in an edition of 1909.—*Editor.*]

bake sale.

The teacher at the Snodgrass school will hold a *bake sale* on Wednesday. Kalama Bulletin.

blackberry bird. Olive-backed thrush. E. I. Denny, Blazing the Way, p. 280.

blind pig emporium.

Kitsap County Herald, Poulsbo.

blind-pigger.

Two Kelso *blind-piggers* arrested and fined. Kalama Bulletin.

blowout, n. Festive occasion. Eighteen was the number that attended the *blowout* at Saratoga last Tuesday night. Island County Times, Coupeville, Wash.

bolt camp.

Mrs. Reed has been cooking for Mr. Callow's men while they were moving a donkey from Camp 2 over to the Wray and Callow *bolt camp.* Mason Co. Journal, Shelton.

bolts, n. pl. Short cedar logs used in the making shingles. J. F. Freestone took a small crib of *bolts* to Everett with his launch, Bob, Friday. Ireland Co. Times, Coupeville.

brakes, n. pl. Bracken. Getting the streets and vacant lots cleared of weeds, thistles and *brakes.* Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

bran-splinter new.

C. H. Olson of Kelso drove through Kalama on his way home from Portland, Wednesday, in a *bran-splinter new* Studebaker Six. Kalama Bulletin.

buckaree, n. Vacquero. Around Pasco, Walla Walla and Pendleton, Oregon, Thomas was considered some *buckaree.* Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

bubac powder.

Bubac powder will kill mosquitoes.

buck v. i. To pile up logs. He has a crew of men falling and *bucking* and a donkey to haul logs. Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

bull cook.

Mr. Bill (Jerusalem) Miller has taken the situation of *bull cook* at the camp. Kalama Bulletin.

char pit. To burn out (stumps). August Schmitz is quite busy *char pitting* stumps. He has about fifty to smoke out. Kalama Bulletin.

chaser, n. The man who follows the logs as they are dragged through the forest and frees them from impediments. Frank Brogue, *chaser* for Jack Morvee, sustained two fractured wrist bones last week. Kalama Bulletin.

check-man, n.

The sheriff of Yakima county has notified the local sheriff that a group of *check-men* are operating in this section of the country. Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

chicken, n. Chinese pheasant. Game Warden J. W. Pike planted thirty-eight of the *chickens* in three different districts of the county. Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

choker hook.

Axel Sandros, an employee of Simpson's Camp 2, lost his life Thursday afternoon, when a *choker hook*, pulled from under a log, struck him on the head. Mason Co. Journal, Shelton.

chunk up, v. phr.

The women and children often helped to pile brush and set fires and many a merry party turned out at night to *chunk up* the blazing heaps. E. I. Denny, Blazing the Way, p. 439.

circulate, v. i.

. . . dairyman, was *circulating* in Kalama Tuesday. Kalama Bulletin.

clay binder.

The Board being of the opinion that a suitable *clay binder* should be provided for the crushed rock roadway. Kalama Bulletin.

condensery, n.

The local *condensery* and creamery. Omak Bulletin.

crib, n.

J. F. Freestone took a small crib of bolts to Everett with his launch, Bob Friday. Island County Times, Coupeville, Wash.

cruiser, n.

As neither of the *cruisers* had a gun, it is lucky for them that the mother bear failed to show up. Mason Co. Journal, Shelton.

cruising, p. a.

Should their *cruising* operations again take them that way. Mason Co. Journal, Shelton.

dictophoner.

You remember how I declared they, *dictophoners*, were the crooked ones. Kitsap Co. Herald.

dikable, a.

This county has more *dikable* lands than any other county in the state. Kalama Bulletin.

dog leg. A bevel square.

donkey doctor. One who repairs the donkey engine. A special train was rushed from Port Angeles last night to fight this fire, after telephone

advices had been received from a *donkey doctor* at Lyre. Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

donkey engineer.

Fred Anderson, one of the *donkey engineers* in Anderson's logging camp. Island County Times, Coupeville, Wash.

fall v. i. To fell trees. He has a crew of men falling and bucking and a donkey to haul logs. Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

floater, n. Itinerant. In the winter when the *floaters* all drifted into Seattle. Pacific Coast Longshoreman.

flop house. A cheap lodging house where one can sleep for a few cents. Seattle.

froe, n. A long sharp heavy iron placed on a short handle like an adze. except that the edge points down. Used to split shakes.

gill net boat.

Mr. Geo. Teien will put (a new gas engine) in a *gill net boat* for fishing. Kitsap Co. Herald.

granny bar. A huge crowbar used in quarries that takes several men to work. Probably because it is the grandmother of crowbars.

guy wire.

All braces and *guy wires* shall be so erected that no part thereof shall be in the portion of the road worked for travel. Kalama Bulletin.

green timber. Evergreens. He was at Ed. Bushe's cabin in the *green timber* three weeks ago, and says there was six feet of snow. Kalama Bulletin.

hand-pick, v. t.

A few democratic bosses met in Castle rock Wednesday and *hand-picked* a ticket for the democrats of Cowlitz Co. Kalama Bulletin.

haystack.

Their copy is sent to all *haystack* newspapers. Pacific Coast Longshoreman.

head, n. In a seine net, the last part laid out by the launch. Frederic Honey.

hickie, n. A piece of pipe with a T large enough to slip over another pipe. Used to bend pipe.

hold, n.

I have seen strong young men balancing their weight against the *hold* of huge stumps. E. I. Denny, Blazing the Way, p. 303.

hollyopsis, n. Caleopsis. Snap dragon, *hollyopsis,* marigold. Kalama Bulletin.

hook-tender, n. One who tends to the hooks which grapple the logs. Claud Lee has taken Jack Morvee's place as *hook-tender.*

hooter, n. Grouse. A bag of fat *hooters* for the stew or pie so much relished by the settlers. E. I. Denny, Blazing the Way, p. 301.

humpie, n. Humpbacked salmon. The run of *humpie* salmon at all points on the Sound continued unabated. The Sedro-Woolley Courier.

incommunicado, a.

Seventy-five men are held *incommunicado*. Northwest Worker, Everett, Wash.

iron chink. A machine for cleaning fish, a substitute for Chinese (Chink) hand labor.

jaeger, n.

Jack Morvee was layed off Tuesday with a sore hand caused by a *jaeger* from the line. Kalama Bulletin.

keeler, n.

His mother came to our house to beg for a *keeler* of water. E. I. Denny, Blazing the Way, p. 393.

layoff, n. Vacation. A. J. Einarson, one of the permanent employees at Camp 1, was taking a *layoff* in town during the bad days of last week. Mason Co. Journal, Shelton.

leaches, n. pl.

His shoes run over, hanging together by thin upper *leaches*. Pacific Coast Longshoreman.

mail man. Postman.

neck, n.

Dog salmon at 35 cents each will surely bring prosperity to this *neck* of the woods. Kalama Bulletin.

needed, p. a.

It will be possible to get every *needed* article for the home at greatly reduced prices. Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

oil of joy. Strong drink. Not quite as happy (in jail) as when packing a full cargo of the *oil of joy*. Kalama Bulletin.

orchardist, n.

Local *orchardists* have the assurance of enough boxes to supply their needs. Omak (Wash.) Chronicle.

outfalls, n. pl. Wood that is automatically rejected by the machines. The single block machine gets no good timber but handles waste and *outfalls* from other machines. Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

oystering, n. Oyster growing. J. T. Croot writes that since he and Mr. Beach have started *oystering*, three other concerns had opened up. Mason Co. Journal, Shelton.

peavy, n. Cant hook. Jack Eldred has a nice black eye as the result of a blow with a *peavy* handle inflicted by himself. Kalama Bulletin.

piano-plant. Peony.

pickin'-meal. Piecemeal. Seattle.

playshed, n.

The Parent-Teachers' Association has made enough money to clear the debt on the *playshed*. Island Co. Times, Coupeville.

pole camp.

Cecil Mitchell, who is employed by James Neil in his *pole camp* at Hood's Canal, cut his foot badly. Island Co. Times, Coupeville.

pole road. A trough-like path through the forest upon which logs are hauled by the donkey. Connie Gilpin has changed jobs having gone chasing the *pole-road* when he was formerly blowing the whistles. Kalama Bulletin.

prince's feather. Laburnum.

purk, v. i. To percolate. Last week there were a few who did not get their copy of the Chronicle, as we sure had some time getting our engine to *purk.* Kalama Chronicle.

purse-seiners, n.

The *purse-seiners* are reaping a harvest here just now, lots of fish and a good price. Island Co. Times, Coupeville.

quates, n. pl. Quoits. That stone is flat and round enough to play *quates* with.

rag bungalow. Tent. Mrs. Billy Letterman and small daughter Dorothy moved in last Saturday and are now occupying their *rag bungalow* on Thistle Hill. Kalama Bulletin. (and frequently)

rag mansion.

Billy Letterman built a new porch on his *rag mansion* Sunday. Kalama Bulletin.

resolutionist, n.

The champion open shop *resolutionist.* Pacific Coast Longshoreman.

rick up, v. phr. To pile. A good supply of wood was *ricked up.* Mason Co. Journal, Shelton.

river donkey. An engine mounted on a raft. The Nesbit family have been putting in a few logs, renting the *river donkey* for the purpose. Kalama Bulletin.

salmon-bake.

A merry crowd gathered on the beach Thursday evening and participated in a most enjoyable *salmon-bake.* Island Co. Times, Coupeville.

salt chuck. Sea. The fish, of many excellent kinds, from the *salt chuck,* brought fresh and flapping to our doors, in native baskets by Indian fishermen. E. I. Denny, Blazing the Way, p. 120.

scissorsbill, n.

If the *scissorsbills* can't get their crops garnered for lack of help. North West Worker, Everett, Wash.

scotch bloom. Scotch broom. Very common error.

shakes, n. pl. Long hand-made shingles. Messrs. Latimer, Mitzel, Porria, Rowland, and Carpenter are busy splitting *shakes* every spare hour. Kalama Bulletin.

ships' knees.

A new form of logging and lumbering that of getting out *ships' knees.* Mason Co. Journal, Shelton.

slashing, n. August Schmitz has just finished burning his *slashing* which he is now seeding to various grass seeds. Kalama Bulletin.

slash, v. i.

. . . Purchased a five-acre tract and has commenced *slashing* the same. Island County Times, Coupeville, Wash.

slimer, n. A person who scrapes the slime off the fish before they are put through the canning process.

smell-leaves. Achlys triphylla.

storm waters.

Be it resolved that the said N. P. Willis be authorized to provide such ditches and other means of construction as will effectually carry such *storm waters* by the highway. Kalama Bulletin.

sunfish, v. i.

(The cayuses) couldn't *sunfish* too fast for Tom. Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

sweet in death. Smell leaves so called by residents of Bainbridge Island, Wash.

swing donkey. A donkey which works by overhead wires and cables. Fred Higgins of Shanghai, who has been running a *swing donkey*, quit working here Monday. Kalama Bulletin.

tail, n. In a seine net the end first laid out by a launch. Frederic Honey.

tail end skiff. A skiff on which the seine net is gathered in and coiled.

tillicums, n. pl. Folks. James Poland of Carrolls was in Kalama Saturday, renewing his acquaintance with old *tillicums*. Kalama Bulletin.

tin pot lawyer.

Pacific Coast Longshoreman.

Washingtoniac, n.

Every condition of good health, happiness, and prosperity is enjoyed to its fullest capacity by *Washingtoniacs*. Port Angeles Tribune-Times.

whisker, n. Loose end of wire. See *jagger*. A *whisker* on a line.

Wobblies, n. pl. I. W. W.'s. *Wobblies* Reported to be Drilling. Northwest Worker, Everett, Wash.

wood bee.

The neighbors held their annual *wood bee* Tuesday, to provide Mrs. Ida Barber with her winter's supply of fuel. Kalama Bulletin.

Yellow Legs. Militia. The detachment of *Yellow Legs* imported at the behest of the Commercial Club. Northwest Worker, Everett, Wash.

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TERMS OF DISPARAGEMENT IN THE DIALECT SPEECH OF HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS IN CALIFORNIA AND NEW MEXICO

INTRODUCTION

I

Since the spring of 1914 I have been collecting each year from my English classes the following terms of disparagement. In the rhetoric work when the study of words is reached I make one of the assignments the bringing in of twenty terms of disparagement which the pupils use in everyday conversation. From these lists I have made the following classification which is based on Miss Gladys Hayden's classification of similar terms published in *Dialect Notes*.

There are a greater number of words from New Mexico than from California because those from New Mexico are the result of two years' collection, while those registered from California were taken from the single assignment of the year.

WORD-LIST

I

The noun is more commonly used than the other parts of speech in these terms of disparagement. The pupils seem to have a great liking for compound nouns having *head* as the last element. No doubt a great many of these words are coined on the spur of the moment to meet the demand for some term which characterizes the individual in some particular situation. Yet because of the frequency of these same words on the papers which I have examined, I infer that they are passed from one person to another until they have quite a general usage.

WORD-LIST

I. COMPOUND NOUNS

(a) Terms that have *head* (*top, dome*) as the last element.

bean-head, a dull, stupid person. "John is such a *bean-head.*" New Mexico.

big-head, one who has a good opinion of himself. "That fellow has the *big-head* pretty bad." California.

block-head, one who lacks intelligence; a dullard. "I guess we will have to call you a *block-head.*" California, New Mexico.

bone-head, one who makes many blunders. "That's the time you made a *bone-head* of yourself." "He pulled a *bone-head* this morning." California, New Mexico.

bull-head, a stubborn, dull, witless person. "That class of people are regular *bull-heads.*" New Mexico.

bun-head, a shallow, stupid person. "That woman is a *bun-head,* can't you tell it by her talk." New Mexico.

cabbage-head, a witless person. "Charlie is a *cabbage-head,* but he cannot help it." California, New Mexico.

cheese-head, a green, awkward person. "Anything that *cheese-head* says doesn't hurt me." New Mexico.

chicken-head, a dull person. "How did that *chicken-head* get this far is more than I understand." New Mexico.

dumb-head, a dullard. "Miss D. put all the *dumb-heads* out of her class." California.

flat-head, a foolish person. "Anything but a *flat-head* for mine." California, New Mexico.

leather-head, a dumb-head. "Come on, you old *leather-head,* if you do not hurry we will be late." New Mexico.

lunk-head, a slow, dull fellow. "I can't have such *lunk-heads* in my class." New Mexico.

moon-head, a silly, awkward fellow. "Get out of here you big *moon-head.*" New Mexico.

mush-head, a soft, silly fellow. "My daughter can't go with that *mush-head.*" New Mexico.

mutton-head, a slow, stupid fellow. "See the fix that *mutton-head* has gotten us into." California, New Mexico.

noodle-head, a dull person. "That old lady has always been a *noodle-head.*" New Mexico.

pig-head, a dullard; a stubborn person. "That Mexican is a *pig-head* and that is all there is to it." New Mexico.

pin-head, a blunderer. "You can't be more of a *pin-head* than he is." California, New Mexico.

pumpkin-head, a dull, stupid fellow. "That *pumpkin-head* cut a date with his girl." California.

sap-head, a foolish person. "The old *sap-head*, why doesn't he come home!" California, New Mexico.

soft-head, an irresolute fellow. "You would be a *soft-head* to accept another invitation." New Mexico.

sore-head, a dissatisfied, angry person. "Mr. J. is such a *sore-head* we will not consult him." California, New Mexico.

square-head, a dull, stupid person. "He is a big *square-head*, he can't get his algebra." New Mexico.

swell-head, one who is egotistical. "There are so many *swell-heads* in the bunch I can't sail with them." California, New Mexico.

tack-head, a slow, stupid fellow. "She is the biggest *tack-head* in the class." New Mexico.

bone-top, a dull fellow; one who makes blunders. "The old *bone-top* forgot to close the windows of the chapel last night." California.

carrot-top, a red headed person. "There is but one *carrot-top* in class." New Mexico.

mutton-top, a slow fellow. "What became of the *mutton-top* after the boys let him go." California.

sour-top, a disagreeable person. "That *sour-top* is at outs with the world." New Mexico.

ivory-dome, a dull, stupid fellow. "Doyle seems to be an *ivory-dome* in history class." New Mexico.

marble-dome, a dullard. "There is no doubt about it, you are a *marble-dome*." New Mexico.

(b) Terms based on other parts of the body.

big-mouth, a loud, noisy person. "I can hear the *big-mouth* coming." California.

butter-fingers, one who is clumsy. "That catcher is a regular *butter-fingers*." New Mexico.

clam-face, a coward. "That robber was a *clam-face* because he ran for the back gate." New Mexico.

cut-throat, an underhanded person. "That firm is made up of *cut-throats*." New Mexico.

high-brow, an aristocrat. "She tries to be a *high-brow*, but she doesn't slip anything over me." New Mexico.

lazy-bones, an idle, lazy person. "I have no time for a *lazy-bones*." New Mexico.

leather-neck, an uncouth person. "See that boy, what a *leather-neck* he is!" New Mexico.

pie-face, a dull, stupid person. "Can you be nothing else but a *pie-face*?" New Mexico.

pumpkin-face, a shallow person. "You old *pumpkin-face*, tell him to pay you the money." New Mexico.

rat-face, a sly, underhanded person. "He is an old *rat-face*, do not trust him with money." New Mexico.

rough-neck, an uncouth person. "The boy is such a *rough-neck* I won't let Mary play with him." California, New Mexico.

rubber-neck, a gawky person. "That is what you get for being a *rubber-neck*." California.

slob-foot, an awkward fellow. "There comes the *slob-foot* who rooms next door." California.

slow-foot, a slow, plodding person. "She is a *slow-foot* but she gets thru just the same." New Mexico.

tender-foot, one not on to the ways of a certain section of the country, a greenhorn. "Jim has the *tender-foot* out at the corral with him." New Mexico.

(c) Compound agent-nouns in *-er*.

bean-eater, a name given to the low class Mexicans. "That row of adobes is filled with *bean-caters*." New Mexico.

biscuit-shooter, a waiter. "Every *biscuit-shooter* in the place is busy." New Mexico.

booze-fighter, a drunkard. "It will be hard on the *booze-fighters* if the saloons close." New Mexico.

chair-warmer, an idle person. "Every bright day all the *chair-warmers* get out in front of the hotel." New Mexico.

cheese-cutter, a bicycle. "John's father bought him a new *cheese-cutter*." New Mexico.

chili-eater, -picker, low class Mexicans. "I went over to Barellas to a dance and all the *chili-eaters* were there." New Mexico.

chin-wagger, an idle talker. "She is a regular *chin-wagger* and never says anything worth while." New Mexico.

clod-hopper, an awkward, gawky person. "Look at that big soldier, he is a regular *clod-hopper*." New Mexico.

counter-jumper, a clerk. "Jim has a new job as *counter-jumper* down at the corner grocery." New Mexico.

four-flusher, a person who pretends to have money. "The old lady and her boys are *four-flushers*." New Mexico.

hash-slinger, a waiter in a cheap restaurant. "He is *hash-slinger* down at the Pullman restaurant." New Mexico.

prune-peddler, a term of disparagement. "I do not seem to agree with the old *prune-peddler*." New Mexico.

scab-herder, a Mexican sheep herder. "Mr. Otero has about two hundred *scab-herders* on his ranch." New Mexico.

sky-larker, one who flirts about; a giddy person. "She is nothing but a little *sky-larker*." New Mexico.

soda-jerker, -squirt, one who works at a soda fountain. "That big *soda jerker* at Grimshaw's has just returned from Alaska." New Mexico.

slop-seller, a dealer in ready-made clothes. "He is a *slop-seller* down on First Street." New Mexico.

wind-jammer, a talkative person. "Here comes Harold, every one calls him *wind-jammer*." New Mexico.

(d) Compounds in which the name of an animal or insect forms a part.

big-bug, an aristocratic person. "She is one of the *big-bugs* of the town." California.

bug-house, a crazy, foolish person. "That old lady is *bug-house*." New Mexico.

chicken-halibut, a term of disparagement used to signify disgust. "He's the only *chicken-halibut* in the family." California.

copy-cat, an imitator. "You are the biggest *copy-cat* on Central Avenue." New Mexico.

crazy-cat, a crazy, witless person. "Do not be such a *crazy-cat* just because you have a few dollars." New Mexico.

fish-hound, a term of disparagement. "He is such a *fish-hound* I won't make any more dates with him." New Mexico.

hedge-hog, a greedy, underhanded person. "The old *hedge-hog* sat here all afternoon." California.

spring-chicken, a young person. "She is no *spring-chicken* any longer but a plain old maid." New Mexico.

(e) Miscellaneous Compounds.

battle-axe, a term of disparagement. "The old *battle-axe*, what became of him!" New Mexico.

battle-ships, a term applied to the feet. "Get your *battle-ships* out of the way so I can sit down." New Mexico.

big-gun, an aristocrat. "All the *big-guns* went to the national convention." California.

buzz-buggy, *-wagon*, an automobile. "The White family bought a new *buzz-buggy* last week." New Mexico.

buttinski, one who interferes. "I have no time for a *buttinski* in business matters." New Mexico.

cart-wheel, a dollar. "How many *cart-wheels* have you in your purse, I want to borrow one." New Mexico.

cheap-mit, a shoddy person. "Those old farmers who live in retirement are old *cheap-mits*." New Mexico.

cheap-skate, *-screw*, a stingy person. "Come across with your money or they will call you a *cheap-skate*. New Mexico.

chin-music, idle talk. "Please do not give me any more of that *chin-music*." New Mexico.

crazy-boob, *-ike*, *-mutt*, *-snoop*, all used in speaking of a foolish, stupid person. "He is such a *crazy-boob*, I don't like him." California.

country-jake, a hayseed. "Mr. Brown looks like a *country-jake*." New Mexico.

dead-beet, one who does not pay his debts. "You want to look out for that Mexican, he is a *dead-beet*." New Mexico.

dough-boy, a new recruit. "A large number of *dough-boys* will go down to the border this summer." New Mexico.

gas-pipe, one who talks a great deal. "That old fellow is quite a *gas-pipe*." New Mexico.

hay-seed, a rough, uncouth fellow. "He plays the part of the *hay-seed* better than anything else." New Mexico.

hock-shop, a pawn shop. "I just got my watch back from the *hock-shop*." New Mexico.

jelly-bean, an indifferent individual. "Mary is such a *jelly-bean* that she never gets her lessons." New Mexico.

krazy-nutts, *crazy nuts*, a term of disparagement. "He is a great big *krazy-nutts*." New Mexico.

lame-duck, one who cannot pay his debts. "They had to sue that *lame-duck* over there for his board bill." New Mexico.

milk-sop, a molly-coddle. "We do not like to see her marry a *milk-sop*." New Mexico.

pill-bag, a doctor. "Here comes the *pill-bag* now." New Mexico.

rattle-box, a talkative fellow; a flighty person. "She is such a *rattle-box* one cannot depend on her." New Mexico.

sass-box, an impudent person. "Mary has become a little *sass-box*." New Mexico.

sawed-off, a short stubby person. "A tall girl never looks well dancing with a *sawed-off*." New Mexico.

sky-pilot, a preacher. "We have a new *sky-pilot* over in the camp." New Mexico.

smart-ellick, a conceited fellow. "I have had enough of those *smart-ellicks*." New Mexico.

spit-fire, a sharp-tongued woman or girl. "The little girl is quite a *spit-fire* for one so young." California.

stick-in-the-mud, a slow fellow. "When the old *stick-in-the-mud* comes along, let me know as I want to see him." New Mexico.

tar-bucket, a tag-tale, a hanger on. "I hate to go as a *tar-bucket*." New Mexico.

tight-wad, a stingy person. "The old *tight-wad* actually put a dime on the collection plate." California, New Mexico.

tin-can, Lizzie, a Ford automobile. "Go slower or the *tin-can* will turn over on these roads." New Mexico.

tattle-tale, one who tells on another. "Every one dislikes a *tattle-tale*." California, New Mexico.

upper-story, a term applied to the head. "Mrs. Smith is off in the *upper-story* most of the time." California.

2. MONOSYLLABIC NOUNS.

bean, the head. "Look out you'll hit me on the *bean*." New Mexico.

bloke, a drunkard. "The old *bloke* lay in the ditch all night. New Mexico.

bore, a tiresome, dull person. "Mrs. K. is the greatest *bore* that comes to our house." New Mexico.

bones, a term applied to the dollar. "It cost just five *bones*, no more or less." New Mexico.

bucks, dollars. "Five *bucks* is all it is worth." New Mexico.

chump, a foolish, silly person. "Don't be such a *chump*." New Mexico.

crumb, a small insignificant person. Sometimes used in disgust. "You poor *crumb*." New Mexico.

dub, a dull, stupid fellow. "He is such a dub, he lets the girl do all the talking." New Mexico.

egg, a term of disparagement. "You're a bad *egg*." New Mexico.

flip, a forward person. "Those little *flips* wink at every boy they see." New Mexico.

freak, an odd person. "Who is that *freak* walking on the other side of the street?" New Mexico.

frump, a loud person. "She is the only *frump* in town." New Mexico.

gink, an awkward, stupid person. "The old *gink*, he has charged me too much." California, New Mexico.

grimp, one who is stupid and makes blunders. "You *grimp*, come on in out of the cold." California.

gump, a silly, stupid fellow. "You are a *gump* if you sign that paper." New Mexico.

guy, a term of disparagement, sometimes applied to strangers. "I wonder who that *guy* can be." New Mexico.

imp, a mean, contemptible person. "The little *imp*, she has taken my thimble again." New Mexico.

it, a term of disparagement used in disgust or contempt. "Her brother is a perfect *It*, mother won't have him on the place." New Mexico.

map, the face. "Get that dirt off your *map* before you come in here." New Mexico.

mug, the face. "Go wash your *mug* before you eat dinner." New Mexico.

mush, the mouth. "Stop his *mush* and give us a rest." New Mexico.

mutt, a dull, awkward person. "The *mutt* lost his place because he couldn't make change." California, New Mexico.

nut, a term of disparagement used in speaking of a foolish person. "You're a *nut* if you teach another class." New Mexico.

nutts, said of one who is confused or crazy. "Say, kid, you're *nutts!*" New Mexico.

pest, a bore. One who is tiresome. "The old *pest* sat at our house all afternoon." New Mexico.

pill, an unattractive person. "Mr. R. is the biggest *pill* on the force." New Mexico.

plunks, dollars. "My new hat cost me five *plunks* in Mexican money." New Mexico.

prod, a term of contempt for a prodigy or brilliant person. "I just have lost all patience with this finding a new *prod* every few months." New Mexico.

rube, a countryfied person; a hay-seed. "All the *rubes* came in to see the circus." New Mexico.

runt, a short, undersized person. "I shall have to go with that *runt* because I drew his name." New Mexico.

scamp, a deceitful, underhanded person. "What a *scamp* he has proved to be!" New Mexico.

scrub, a short undersized person. One who is low and contemptible. "The little *scrub!* I do not notice her." New Mexico.

shanks, a tall, awkward fellow. "*Shanks* played the part of the wealthy old farmer." New Mexico.

simp, a foolish person. A contraction of the word simpleton. "You poor *simp!* Don't you know better than to leave school?" New Mexico.

skirt, a woman. "Which *skirt* did you bid for?" New Mexico.

slob, a fat overgrown person. Often used as a term of contempt. "The big *slob!* Why did he leave his hat here?" California, New Mexico.

sneak, a low, deceitful person. "She is such a *sneak*, I cannot tolerate to have her around." New Mexico.

snide, an underhanded person. "That fellow is a *snide*, do not trust him." New Mexico.

snob, one who thinks himself better than others. "Miss F. is such a *snob*, no one likes her." New Mexico.

soak, a drunkard. "Billy Sunday preaches to the old *soaks*." California, New Mexico.

stiff, a rough, ill-mannered person. "You big *stiff*, leave my hat alone." New Mexico.

suds, a term used for money. "Here, give me some of that *suds*." New Mexico.

tough, a rough, ill-kept fellow. "What is the matter? You look like a regular *tough*." New Mexico.

tin, a term used for money. "Loan me some *tin*, I left my pocket-book at home." New Mexico.

trap, the mouth. Sometimes called fly-trap. "Here boy, shut that *trap* of yours and let your father talk a while." New Mexico.

wop, a worthless person. "The big *wop*, I would like to see him work a while." New Mexico.

3. DISSYLLABIC NOUNS

(a) Agent Nouns in *-er*.

bluffer, one who pretends to know when he does not. "Katherine is quite a *bluffer* in my classes." New Mexico.

knocker, one who finds fault. "All of the *knockers* were on the front row." California.

piker, a coward; one who backs out. "Do not be a *piker* now, come across with your money." California, New Mexico.

sucker, a stingy person. An underhanded fellow. "That old fellow is a *sucker*, he will not pay his honest debts." New Mexico.

(b) Nouns in *-er*.

fliver, a Ford car. "The most of those cars are *flivers*." New Mexico.

gamboozler, a low, ill-bred person. "Did you ever see such a *gamboozler* as that person?" New Mexico.

geezer, an odd, peculiar person. "Get that old *geezer* out of here." New Mexico.

greaser, a low-class Mexican. "John had about thirty *greasers* working under him." New Mexico.

lubber, an overgrown boy. A big, awkward person. "He is such a *lubber* for one so young." New Mexico.

slubber, a low mean wretch. "That old *slubber* has stolen some more of my chickens." New Mexico.

sinker, a biscuit. "We had some *sinkers* for breakfast and I can feel them yet." New Mexico.

(c) Nouns in *-y*.

cuty, an upstart; one who thinks himself clever. "Now *cuty*, don't get smart around here." California, New Mexico.

dummy, a stupid person. "Don't sit there like a *dummy*." California.

inchy, a close, stingy person. Also a person who is undersize. "There goes *inchy*, call him over here." New Mexico.

nutty, one who is confused. "He is perfectly *nutty* over that problem." New Mexico.

pruny, used like the phrase "full of prunes." "John you are *pruny*, take your seat." New Mexico.

smarty, a term of disparagement. "You big *smarty*, you can go right home." California.

winsy, a talkative person. "You will have to ask *winsy* about that, he knows all about the seats." New Mexico.

4. OTHER DISSYLLABIC NOUNS

coco, the head. "The ball hit him on the *coco*." New Mexico.

dago, an Italian peddler. "There comes the little *dago* again." New Mexico.

galout, an awkward fellow. "He is surely the greatest *galout* in school." New Mexico.

gazizzey, a stupid fellow. "Who is that *gazizzey* over there?" New Mexico.

gazook, a gawky person. "There comes the old *gazook* again." New Mexico.

greenhorn, a hayseed; an awkward person. "The new boy looks like a regular *greenhorn*." New Mexico.

gringo, an American, so called by the Mexicans. Used in contempt. "The *gringoes* are on Mexican territory and they must get off." New Mexico.

gunboats, the feet. "Keep your *gunboats* out of my way." New Mexico.

hobo, a tramp; a shiftless person. "He looks like a *hobo*." New Mexico.

hoodlum, an irresponsible fellow. "Those street *hoodlums* have stolen the old man's hat." California.

humbug, a fraud or deception. "The whole scheme is a *humbug*." New Mexico.

lummox, an awkward, overgrown boy or girl. "That Fox girl is the biggest *lummox* in town." New Mexico.

mogul, an aristocrat. "They think they are the *moguls* of this town." New Mexico.

numskull, a dullard. "She put all the *numskulls* to shame with her teasing." New Mexico.

peanut, a term of disparagement. "He is a *peanut*, but he is clever." New Mexico.

pickle, an unsociable person. "That librarian is a *pickle*." New Mexico.

scalawag, a sly, deceitful person. "Look out for the old *scalawag*." California, New Mexico.

submarines, the feet. "What size shoe do you wear on those *submarines*?" New Mexico.

5. NAMES OF ANIMALS, BIRDS, FOWLS, FISH, INSECTS, ETC.

ape, a silly, simpering person. "Don't make an *ape* of yourself." New Mexico.

bug, a stupid person. Also used when a person talks or thinks on one subject continually. "He is such a *bug*." "She has the *bug* when it comes to dress." New Mexico.

crab, a cross, irritable person. "She is such a *crab* that the pupils will not get into her classes unless they have to." New Mexico.

duck, an awkward person. "He is some *duck*, I must say." New Mexico.

goose, a silly, foolish fellow. "The old *goose* has taken quite a shine to her." New Mexico.

hen, an old fussy woman. "They are a bunch of old *hens*. Every old gossip in the neighborhood is present." California, New Mexico.

hyena, a stupid, blundering fellow. "If I ever make a *hyena* of myself I wish you would tell me." New Mexico.

jay, a gawky person." Who is that *jay* across the street?" New Mexico.

lobster, one who is awkward; a dull, stupid person. "Mr. R. is such a *lobster*, we all dislike to see him come." New Mexico.

loon, a dull person. "The old *loon* has lost his glasses again." New Mexico.

sardine, a term of disparagement. "I haven't seen the old *sardine* for two or three days." California.

snipe, a term of disparagement. "You little *snipe*, where did you get that money?" New Mexico.

sparrow, an undersized person. "Did you have to dance with the *sparrow?*" New Mexico.

worm, a low, dishonest fellow. Also used as a term of disgust. "You poor *worm!* Take your things and get out." New Mexico.

6. NOUN PHRASES

abbreviated piece of nothing, a low, mean person. "The old codger is just an *abbreviated piece of nothing*." New Mexico.

big booby, a cry-baby. An over-grown silly fellow. "You are a *big booby*." New Mexico.

big George, a term of disparagement. "Don't let that *big George* have my overcoat. He will snag it." New Mexico.

box-ankled hound, a term of disparagement. "That *box-ankled* hound has the tickets." New Mexico.

cheap swivel dude, a gaudy fellow; a cheap dude. "There goes the only *cheap swivel dude* we have in this town." California.

chin music, idle talk. "Please do not give me any more of that *chin music*." New Mexico.

hot one, -number, used as a term of disgust. "You're a *hot one* I must say." New Mexico.

hard boiled egg, a stingy person. "Every one calls him a *hard boiled egg* because he is so close with his boys." New Mexico.

little cheese, a term showing disgust. "Poor *little cheese*, you are very much abused." New Mexico.

poor bean, an awkward, stupid fellow. "You poor *bean!* Why don't you ask some girl?" New Mexico.

poor fish, a term of disparagement. "Where did that *poor fish* find his girl?" New Mexico.

poor prune, a term of disparagement; used in a sense of disgust. "You didn't get any problems! you *poor prune*." New Mexico.

piece of nothing, an abbreviated, one who does not amount to much. "She is just *an abbreviated piece of nothing* wearing clothes." New Mexico.

rah-rah boys, college students. "The *rah-rah boys* are out for a time." New Mexico.

some squab, a term of disparagement. "Well, I must say that pitcher is some *squab*, he can't even handle a bat." California.

squirrel foot, a stupid, dull person. "He is just a *squirrel foot*, that's all." New Mexico.

sun pecked jay, a term of disparagement. "The old *sunpecked jay* is as wealthy as Croesus." California.

II

ADJECTIVES

1. Adjectives in *-ed*

cracked, foolish, stupid. "The old lady is *cracked*. Poor old soul I'm sorry for her." New Mexico.

locoed, crazy. "He surely has gone *locoed*." New Mexico.

soused, in a drunken condition. "He is *soused*." New Mexico.

stewed, in a drunken condition. "What do you know about it, Prof. R. is *stewed*." California, New Mexico.

2. Adjectives in *-y*.

batty, foolish, simple. "You're *batty*, get out of here." California, New Mexico.

beany, crazy. "She's gone *beany* about him." New Mexico.

buggy, foolish, silly. "That teacher is *buggy* when it comes to Latin." New Mexico.

crumby, silly, dull, stupid. "John is *crumby*. Notice how he dresses." New Mexico.

dippy, foolish, simple. "You are perfectly *dippy* about algebra." California, New Mexico.

goosey, stupid. "Come, come, please do not be so *goosey*." California.

loony, silly. "You are a *loony* fellow to pay so much attention to her." New Mexico.

rooky, uncouth, ill-kept. "My, but you look *rooky* this morning!" New Mexico.

roony, ill-kept. "She is so *roony*. Why doesn't she fix up." New Mexico.

rummy, used to describe something below par. "That new book is so *rummy*, it isn't worth reading." New Mexico.

seedy, rough, ill-kept. "His father was a *seedy* looking old Congressman." New Mexico.

snippy, haughty. "Miss F. is too *snippy* to be well liked." New Mexico

scummy, mean, low. "Don't be so *scummy* about the money." New Mexico.

woozey, uncouth. "What a *woozey* looking fellow he seems to be." New Mexico.

3. Compound Adjectives

chicken-hearted, said of a cowardly person. "He is too *chicken-hearted* to make a good soldier." New Mexico.

close-fisted, stingy. "The old *close-fisted* deacon is dead." New Mexico.

cold-footed, cowardly. "You are *cold-footed* on this proposition of marriage." New Mexico.

dough-faced, dull, shallow. "She is so *dough-faced* that I tire of her." New Mexico.

flat-wheeled, a term of disparagement. "He is a *flat-wheeled* old boob." New Mexico.

half-baked, half witted; lacking in judgment. "That girl is only *half-baked*." New Mexico.

high-filuten, haughty. "You needn't be getting off any of that *high-filutin* stuff on me." California, New Mexico.

hot-headed, quick tempered. "Do not be so *hot-headed* every time she disputes you." California.

lanterned-jawed, a long faced person. "They are all *lanterned jawed*." New Mexico.

loud-mouthed, a loud talker. "Harold is such a *loud-mouthed* fellow." New Mexico.

moon-faced, a round faced person. "If I was as *moon-faced* as that girl I would take anti-fat." New Mexico.

sawdust-brained, stupid, foolish. "John is too *sawdust-brained* to pound sand in a rat hole." New Mexico.

stiff-necked, stubborn. "If they were not so *stiff-necked* I would call on them." New Mexico.

yellow-livered, cowardly. "The government will find a lot of *yellow-livered* recruits in the ranks." New Mexico.

4. Adjective Phrases

on the blink, a wretched condition. "My, but I feel *on the blink*." New Mexico.

on his uppers, to be without money; broke. "The old man is *on his uppers* most of the time." New Mexico.

hill of beans, not worth a. "He is'nt *worth a hill of beans*." California.

5. Nouns and Adjectives Showing Reduplication or Ablaut.

monkey-monk, high, n. an aristocrat. "They are the *high monkey-monks* of the town, so be careful what you say." New Mexico.

silly-billy, n. a foolish, simpering person. "Old White has always been a disgusting *silly-billy*." New Mexico.

swishy-swashy, adj. fickle. "She is too *swishy-swashy* for me." New Mexico.

6. Adjectives in *-ious*.

doodlesniptious, snippy, haughty. "You need not be so *doodlesniptious* about your hat, I don't like it." New Mexico.

III

VERBAL EXPRESSIONS

cash in checks, to die. "Oliver looks like he was about ready to *cash in his checks*." New Mexico.

dressed up like a sore finger, to be over-dressed. "There goes that girl all dressed up like a sore finger." New Mexico.

hand in checks, to die. "She acts like she didn't care if he did *hand in his checks*." New Mexico.

talking thru your hat, idle talk. "He's only *talking thru his hat* when he says it's going to storm." New Mexico.

sweep out the cobwebs, said when one appears dull or stupid. "I guess you had better *sweep out the cobwebs* before you tackle that lesson." California.

whittled down to a point, little end of nothing, said of an insignificant person. "That preacher is the *little end of nothing whittled down to a point*." California.

VERBAL EXPRESSIONS THAT SHOW A MENTAL CONDITION

bats in his belfry, crickets in his belfry, said of one who is crazy. "The old lady has *bats in her belfry*." New Mexico.

full of prunes, foolish. "Every one says the poor fellow is *full of prunes*." California, New Mexico.

nobody home, a stupid, dull condition. "There is *nobody home* with you this morning." New Mexico.

screw loose, mentally unbalanced. "That fellow has a *screw loose*." New Mexico.

string loose, a crazy, foolish condition. "He has a *string loose* somewhere." New Mexico.

loose in his upper story, a crazy person. "Charlie is *loose in his upper story*." New Mexico.

ELSIE WARNOCK.

REMARKS CONCERNING THE SOCIETY'S PROJECTED DICTIONARY

The Society is now achieving its thirtieth year. During its activities a widespread interest in the subject of Americanisms has resulted in many collections, still largely unprinted, of which one specimen is provided in the foregoing pages of this issue. Local branches have undertaken a considerable variety of tasks, and the output of *Dialect Notes* has from time to time secured a semi-permanent record in the standard dictionaries of English speech. A membership, distinguished though limited as compared with the membership of other American philological associations has been built up.

Nevertheless, the Society's chief enterprise may be said to be in a critical position. The period of national emergency, involving additional cost in printing without the advisability of increased membership dues, has prevented publication from keeping pace with production. It has also prevented the necessary office work of fusing the material on hand in an alphabetical card digest preparatory to definition and editing for the projected Dictionary of Distinctively American Speech.

Inasmuch as the Modern Language Association of America will hold no meeting this year, and it seems therefore unlikely that any widely representative group of the Society will meet this winter, the Secretary takes this occasion to invite attention to the Society's immediate needs.

These needs are: first and most urgent, a considerable increase of membership, best obtainable through the activity of local branches and particularly their secretaries. The spirit which prompted, in the years following our wars of liberation, An American Dictionary of the English Language by Noah Webster, should now prompt in the years following our extension of the principle of liberation, a record of the distinctively American quality which finds expression in the words and phrases produced in our history as a nation. American *sand* and *grit* and *gumption* have had their place in the victory of our banners; and these very terms give con-

sciousness of the nature of American enterprise. Our language is a mirror of all that is noble and ignoble within us. People enough will find interest in this value of national self-expression if their attention is properly directed.

The second need is a working fund by means of which the collections of the Society can be so arranged as to permit voluntary workers to spend their time to advantage in the processes of accurate definition and tracing of etymologies. A few hundred dollars would provide facilities for the purely mechanical work of clipping, posting and arrangement which are necessary preliminaries and for which the time of trained scholars cannot reasonably be requested. Publication can hardly be sought for prior to the establishment of a work sufficiently advanced to justify its own claims.

The final immediate need of the Society is a small fund for the purchase of books and pamphlets on or related to the Society's work which has never been available, although opportunities for advantageous purchases frequently present themselves.

Meantime, correspondence is invited regarding the ultimate form of the projected dictionary. As a basis for such discussion, the excerpt from Mr. Richard H. Thornton's collections edited as he offers it with the necessary omission of matter heretofore printed, raises the problems of the form of entries, the extent of illustrative quotations desirable, and lines of demarcation for inclusion and exclusion of terms and phrases. The forms of the Oxford English Dictionary and the English Dialect Dictionary offer bases of comparison.

PERCY W. LONG, *Secretary.*

COMMENTS ON RECENT WORD LISTS

1. Colonial and Early Pioneer Words

fence-viewer. This office is still alive in parts of rural Massachusetts.
horn-bound tree. Probably the term is a corruption of *hornbeam.*
housing. A degeneration of the English dialectic plural *housen?*
pinenet. Perhaps from French *pinette?*

2. Western Reserve

aiah. Common in Massachustts about ten years ago; not heard recently.
and. This pronunciation, under precisely the circumstances noted by Mr. Kenyon, occurs in California (Berkeley).
bad off. Very common all over New England.
belly-smacker. In Warren, Mass., about 1890, the term was *belly-bumper* or *belly-flopper.*
build a fire. I say this myself, and never use any other expression to convey the meaning. It seems to be perfectly good New England.
chawnk. I know *champ* (tschæmp) and *chawmp* in this sense (Massachusetts).
come in. Used in rural Massachusetts of nearly all domestic animals (horses, dogs, cows, sheep), not restricted to cows; therefore Mr. Kenyon's suggestion as to the origin of the term probably will not hold.
cut. The common coll. word. I have never heard *alter* in Massachusetts; *spade* and *domesticate* (the latter a conscious nicety) are common in Western Massachusetts.
gaup. I have heard this word used by a Scotchwoman who was raised from a girl in Maryland.
get up and dust. "Get up and *get*" is common in Western Massachusetts.
hell to toot. Hell bent for leather is the expression to which I am most used (Western Massachusetts).
highth. Clearly by analogy with *width, breadth, length.*
look-at. With the pronunciation *look-it,* familiar to me all my life (Western Massachusetts).
Morning's milk. So far as I know, the universal use. I know no other; and this expression is common both in New England and in California.
off'n the. Probably from *off'm,* weakened form of *off from. Off'm* is common in Western Massachusetts.
pom-pom-pullaway. In 1898, in Western Massachusetts, I knew this game as *pom-pom-pete-away. Pull-away* must have been the original form.
Shank's horses. The form is *Shank's mare* in Western Massachusetts.
side-swipe. Used by a life-long resident of New York City, and therefore not very recent. I have heard him use the term at least eleven years ago.
thank-you-ma'am. In New England, not a hole of any sort, but a high, rounded ridge in the road causing a bounce when wheels pass over it. As our buggy struck one, and the bounce reacted, we would cry out: "*Thánk*-yŏu-ma'am!"
want . . . should. Quite common in rural New Hampshire.
young 'un. The pronunciation common in Central Massachusetts is *yáu-ns* (disyllabic, with vocalic nasal).

ARTHUR G. BRODEUR.

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Notation for Recording Pronunciation.

1. Vowel and diphthongal sounds.[1]

FOR	AS IN	USE
a	father, ah, card	*â*
a	hat, mad, cap	*æ*
a	fast, pass[2]	*à*
a	pay, name, fate	*ê* (*ei*)[3]
ai, a	air, mare	*eə* (*aeə*, *eə*)[4]
au, aw	haul, law	*ɔ*
e	pet, hen	*e*
e, ee	me, bee, seed	*î*
e, ee, ea	mere, peer, fear	*îə*
e	butter, battery	*ə*
e	her	*ë*
e	there	*eə* (*aeə*, *éə*)[4]
e	few, pew	*yû*
e	dew, new[5]	*iû*
ei, ey	neigh, they	*ê* (*ei*)[3]
i	hit, bid, pin	*i*
i	machine	*î*
i	sir	*ë*
i	time, pine	*ai*, (*əi*)[6]
i	ire, fire	*aiə*[4]
o	not, cot, top	*o* (*a*)[7]
o, ou	note, tone, dough	*ô* (*ou*)[8]
o	stone, whole[9]	*ò*
o	son	*ɒ*
o	word	*ë*
o, oa	cord, hoard	*ɔə* (*óə*, *oə*)[4]
oi	boil, coin	*oi*
oo	book	*u*
oo	fool, pool	*û*
oo, ou	poor, tour	*ûə*
ou	round, house	*au* (*aeu*, *àu*)
ou, ow	hour, tower, power	*auə*[4]
u	full, pull	*u*
u	rude	*û*
u	up, but	*ɒ*
u	curl, furl	*ë*
u	use	*yû*

2. Consonants.[10] (Written as usual unless indicated.)

FOR	AS IN	USE
ch	church	*tʃ*
dg	judge	*dʒ*
g	gem	*dʒ*
j	judge	*dʒ*
n, ng	sink, finger, singing	*ŋ*
qu	quite	*kw*
s	pleasure	*ʒ*
sh	she	*ʃ*
th	think	*þ*
th	this	*ð*
wh	when	*hw*
x	tax	*ks*
x	exact	*gz*
z	azure	*ʒ*

3. Accents, syllable division, etc.

The accent may be marked by · (a turned period) before the vowel of the accented syllable. If none is written, the accent is understood to be on the first syllable. A secondary accent may be marked by : (colon) before the vowel, as *æks:esib·iliti* (*accessibility*).

Hyphens may be used to indicate syllable division and vocalic character of *l*, *r*, *n*, etc. Thus, *a-a* is different from *aa*, *ai-ə* from *aiə:* and *îzl-i* (*easily*) may be written when the second syllable consists of *l* with no preceding vowel.

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[1] In case the ear makes finer distinctions, the sign for the nearest sound may be used with an exponent (a^1, o^1, r^1, etc.) to be explained in a note. In unaccented syllables the quantity of vowels is naturally lessened, and this lessening is sufficiently shown by the lack of accent. Decidedly greater length than would be expected may be indicated by doubling the letter. Nasality may be marked by ˛ (a turned apostrophe) after the letter, as *a˛*.

[2] When pronounced with a vowel intermediate to *a* (top) and *æ* (hat).

[3] Use *ei* when the sound ends in a faint *i*.

[4] After these diphthongs *r* (and *ə*) should be written only when pronounced.

[5] This is the peculiar American sound intermediate between *û* and *yû*. Thus *nyû* is English, *niû* is American, but *yûs*, *fyû* are both American and English. Write *nû*, *dù* when the words are so pronounced.

[6] Use *ei* for the sound usual in England.

[7] Use *a* when nearer *father* than *law;* use *o* when like *law*, but shorter.

[8] Use *ou* when the sound ends in a faint *u*.

[9] The short New England sound.

[10] Doubled consonants are not to be used unless the consonant is really long or produces the effect of two consonants on the ear; as *siti* (*city*), *sitə* (*sitter*), *autt·ɔk* (*outtalk*).

Collectanea in Progress.

(An asterisk indicates that the collection is being made by a student under the professor's supervision.)

By districts

Arkansas (Ozark Mountains) ..... Louise Pound*
California and Utah ..... A. G. Brodeur*
Florida ..... F. S. Allen
Kansas ..... J. C. Ruppenthal
Kentucky ..... J. H. Combs
Michigan ..... C. P. Wagner
New Mexico ..... E. L. Warnock
New York State (Ithaca) ..... Clark Northup
North Carolina ..... H. H. Kephart
Nova Scotia ..... K. G. T. Webster
Ohio (Logan Co.) ..... H. C. Laughlin
Pennsylvania (Lewisburg) ..... G. C. L. Riemer

By classes

College Terms ..... R. W. Gordon
Cowboy Lingo ..... J. A. Lomax
Fraternity Terms ..... J. E. Mason, Jr.
Ghost-articles ..... O. F. Emerson

Metaphor and Simile ..... Louise Pound*

Speech chant (Indiana) ..... Mrs. G. H. Stempel

Trade Words ..... O. F. Emerson*
Whaling Terms ..... B. J. Rees

By periods

Colonial ..... Albert Matthews
Early Pioneers ..... Anon.

Bibliography

Stories containing dialect classified ..... P. W. Long*

DIALECT NOTES.
Volume V, Part III, 1920.

THE JOCULARIZING OF FRENCH WORDS AND PHRASES IN PRESENT-DAY AMERICAN SPEECH

Impetus has been given by the war—through the presence of Americans in France, their letters home, and the articles of newspaper humorists—to the tendency already noticeable in American folk-speech to jocularize French words and phrases by somehow folk-etymologizing them. The inclination existed, as a staple resource for the facetious, before the war; but of late it has become more conspicuous. A French phrase is transformed into similar sounding English words; or part of a word is changed in a folk-etymologizing way; or a word is deliberately mispronounced, silent consonants being sounded or the accent shifted; or French vowels and consonants are sounded in the English way. Mostly the following lists speak for themselves. No doubt a careful canvass would greatly lengthen them. The class of speakers employing jocular mispronunciations of French words and phrases is an educated class. It consists of newspaper humorists, students, and those in social life with a slight or a real knowledge of French, and a percentage of returned soldiers. Latin and German are relatively exempt from such folk-etymologizing treatment. The jocularizing of Latin phrases is rare. A solitary instance known to the present writer occurs in the references occasionally heard to the "fugiting of tempus." German words or phrases are employed to contribute to folk-humor in phrases like '*raus mit em, aber nit,* etc., but this usage is not so widespread, is of another type, and it does not emerge from so cultivated a class.

Most of the following words and phrases were collected or contributed by students.

WORDS

bean-tote, bientôt. "When will it be finished?" "Why, bean-tote."

bone-jar, bonjour. "Bone-jar is the thing to say nowdays."

bud-war, boudoir. "She's retired to her bud-war."

bullion, bouillon. "Tomato bullion was served for the first course."

by-joe, bijou. "A regular little by-joe of a dog."

caif, calf, caffy, café. "We went to eat at a calf."

camouflag, camouflage. "So we talked a lot more camouflag."

casserole, camisole. "She bought a new casserole of pink silk—very expensive."

chamois, jamais. "Would I do that? Chamois, chamois."

cherry, cheri. "She called me her cherry."

chick, chic. "Your new garments are very chick."

chiffonier, chauffeur. "They told their chiffonier to drive me home."

coop, coupé. "He sent her home in a coop."

coop, coup. "He made a coop in grain speculation."

dishybilly, déshabillé. "And there I was, all dishybilly, when the callers came."

elitty, ee-light, elité. "The elitty of the region entertained that night."

finance, fiancé. "There goes Miss Blank with her new finance."

ke-'noozer, connoisseur. "He's quite a ke-'noozer in the auto business."

layout, layette. "It was time to prepare the layout."

lingery, lingerie. "And there was her new outfit of lingery."

merin-'gue, meringue. "There before us was a merin-'gue, like old times."

mercy, merci. "That's very good of you. Mercy, mercy."

shimmy, chemise. "A shop window full of shimmies and other lingery."

shover, chauffeur. "They telephoned for their shover."

tchef, chef. "He's the tchef at the cafeteria."

trousers, trousseau. "She's out with her mother purchasing trousers for her nuptials."

turnout, tonneau. "They were already in the tournout."

PHRASES

auntra noo, entre nous. "Auntra noo, between you and I." Poster of Neil O'Brien minstrels. 1919.

Billy-do, billet-doux. "Be sure to send me a Billy-do."

en dishybill, or *dishybilly,* en déshabillé. "There we sat, en dishybilly."

espritt de corpse, esprit de corps. "The gang showed little espritt de corpse."

excusez-muh, excusez moi. "I'm sorry. Excusez muh."

fox pass, fawks or *folks pass, fo paws,* faux pas. "I made the fox paws of my life."

Jenny's pa, je ne sais pas. "Can't tell you. Jenny's pa, Jenny's pa."

Jenny sass pass, je ne sais pas. "Try somebody else. Jenny sass pass."

Less Miserablez, Les Miserables. "So we read that old book, Less Miserablez."

nom de bloomer, nom de plume. "He thought best to write under a nom de bloomer."

o gosh, à gauche. "Go a block or two and then o gosh."

olive oil, au revoir. "I'll see you on Tuesday. Olive oil."

o reservoir, au revoir. "O reservoir till a week from today."

robe de night, robe de nuit. "So I donned my robe de night."

silver plate, s'il vous plaît. "More of the mutton, Mr. Brown, silver plate."

shimmy-de-fer, chemin-de-fer. "So we set out to go by the shimmy-de-fer."

tchef dover, or *doover*, chef d'oeuvre. Often compared, "His tchefest doover," etc.

three beans, trace beans, très bien. "So that's how it's to be? Well, three beans."

toot-n-scramble, toot-n-scumble, toot-a-stumble, tout ensemble. "I wasn't keen about the toot-n-stumble effect."

toot sweet, tout de suite. "Bring the soup, waiter, toot sweet."

tray bone, très bon. "I'm well pleased. Tray bone, tray bone."

One French phrase is substituted for another in the occasionally heard "It's all *pomme-de-terre*" for "it's all *comme-il-faut*." New French verb forms are coined in the familiar "I don't *savvy*" from *savez-vous* and "Can't you *parlez-vous?*" and in "*Squattez-vous*, mademoiselle," "*Proceedez-vous*," and the like.

LOUISE POUND.

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Anchor. Dredging term. A board about four feet long spiked on to the end of a brace to buttress it.

Angel leaves. Achlys leaves. Whatcom County, Washington.

Arm waitress. A waitress skilled in piling dishes on her arm. "Experienced arm waitress wanted." *Seattle Times.*

Baching. "Mr. Howard tired of baching sooner than was expected and has hired a housekeeper." *Mason County Journal,* Shelton, Washington.

Barn, to, v. "In the Grande Ronde the cattle feed out all winter, but in the Blue Mountains they have to barn them." Heard in Spokane.

Beefing. Student term. Complaining.

Belgium hares. This form of adjective is frequently found in rural papers.

Bite. For bight, the angle of the rope which is drawn through a pulley. "A man was killed yesterday—standing in the bite when a block and cable broke" *Seattle Post Intelligencer.*

Blood poison. Frequently found in rural papers and heard in conversation.

Boom men. Men who tend to a boom of logs. Employment Agency, Portland, Oregon.

Boom sticks. "Logs chained end to end encircling the boom. "The boat brought boom-sticks for J. A. Montgomery." Island County, Coupeville, Washington.

Born, to, v. "Whenever any children were born she had to born them." In eulogy of a Skagit County nurse.

A-borning. "The trouble is that (the Bolshevist movement) cannot exist in the American air, and it dies abornin'." *Seattle Post Intelligencer.*

Box nailer. A-1 Box nailer, experienced, married, wishes steady work. *Seattle Times.*

Brace. Dredging term. An upright timber supporting a wall.

Breadery. "Bake-Rite Breadery." Seattle.

Bright straw. "Wanted—100 tons of dry, bright wheat or oat straw." *Coupeville, Island County, Times.*

Brizzy. Mining term. A rock drill.

Bucker-up. A shipyard worker who helps the riveter. Seattle.

Bullblock. A very large pulley block. Logging term. Washington.

Bunchgrassers. A term used in parts of Eastern Oregon to denote people living out in the foothills.

Burner. The man in a steel mill who cuts steel with a hot gas flame. Seattle.

Carry routes, to. To deliver newspapers in a certain territory "Wanted —young men or boys to carry routes." *Seattle Post Intelligencer.*

Chix. Chicken halibut. Commission House term.

Chocolate dippers. "Wanted—Chocolate dippers, experienced help only need apply." *Seattle Times.*

Chokerman. The man who fastens the chokerhook around the log. Logging term.

Chunk out, to. To clean out the chunks from skid roads. Logging term.

Clever, adj. Sweaters made with clever belts. *Seattle Times.* A clever suit of clothes. Signboard, Seattle.

Corned, applied to eggs. Eggs corned in waterglass. *Mason County Journal,* Shelton, Washington.

Coulee. Creek beds and gullies. Usually dry in summer. Eastern Washington.

Crumb the table, to. To remove the crumbs from the table. Seattle.

Deadhead. A log or loose pile, one end of which is waterlogged. Dangerous to small boats.

Deadman. A pole used to fasten guy wires to. Logging.

Dipper. See Chocolate dipper.

Dogs. Dog salmon. Fisheries term.

Dolly bar. Bar held under a rivet while the rivet-gun batters it down. Shipyards.

Donkey puncher. Engineer on donkey engine.

Donkey sled. Log platform upon which the engine is mounted.

Dough god. Camp bread.

Drag saw. "To sell or will trade my drag saw." *Island County Times,* Coupeville, Wash.

Dress better, to. "A hog less than six months old that dressed better than 150 pounds."

Drummer. A pheasant. Western Washington.

Duck Company, where the canvas-like cloth is sold. Puget Sound Tent and Duck Company, Seattle.

Elkhorn. Achlys leaves.

Fitch, the fur of the skunk. Ermine, fox, lynx, wolf, fitch, reasonable while they last. *Seattle Times.*

Flip, to. "The lungmotor is so compact and light that a man or boy can flip a street car, bicycle, or horse." *Cashmere Valley Record,* Washington.

Floater. 1. A man who helps to start a bunco business scheme. 2. A glass of malted-milk with a spoonful of ice cream in it.

Flunky. A table waiter, dishwasher and helper to the cook. Logging term.

Gas skinner. Engineer on a gasoline boat.

Gin pole. Pole sunk in ground with pulley block on top. Used in loading logs.

Go-devil. A hay buck, an implement used to rake hay into a stack. Eastern Wash.

Goof. A man who is eccentric.

Graveyard shift. The shift in the shipyards from midnight to seven a. m.

Grease burner. The fireman on a locomotive which burns crude oil.

Greaser. The man who greases the skid road. Western Washington. Logging.

Gun. Compressed air machine which batters down hot rivets. Shipyards.

Hackamore. A bridle. Eastern Oregon.

Hammer jack. A rock drill. Mining.

Haul back, n. A line used to pull back the main line into the woods after it has dragged out a log. Logging.

Hay buck. An implement used to rake hay into a stack. Eastern Washington.

Hay wire. Gone wrong or no good. Slang.

Hog. The machine used for making "hogged Fuel." Sawmill term.

Hogged Fuel. "Hogged fuel is the wood waste from sawmills chopped fine and mixed with sawdust." Seattle Spirit.

Hindsights—built on "Foresight." "Now that . . the election has . . passed it is interesting to note the various 'hindsights' of the newspaper accounts." *Mason County Journal,* Shelton.

Hop buck. The man who carries the sacks in the hop yard. Oregon Hop Industry.

Horse clam. A large, coarse clam. "Now that the festive horse clam has become the 'Washington white clam' of commerce." *Mason County Journal,* Shelton, Washington.

Hose, to, v. To use the garden hose, "hose the garden, lawn, automobile." Universal in Seattle.

Indian plum. Osmaronia cerasiformis.

Jacklite. "It shall be unlawful to hunt deer with a jacklite, lights from an automobile, or any other form of artificial light." *Mason County Journal,* Shelton, Washington.

Jag, Crying. "Crying jag has good reason to weep." *Seattle Post Intelligencer.*

Jig, to. To catch fish by drawing naked hooks through the water where the fish are passing by in schools.

Jigger. A hook used for "jigging" fish, or the pole and other apparatus.

Jointist. One who sells drink illegally. "Is Charged With Being Jointist." *Seattle Post Intelligencer.*

Kings. King salmon. Fisheries.

Knee bolter. A shingle weaver. Shingle Industry.

Knot head. A bucking horse.

Knotter. A knot sawyer. Sawmill term.

Knotter head. Instrument that ties knots in a binding machine. Wheat Industry.

Lamb's tongue. Erythronium. Sweetser, Some Oregon Wild Flowers.

Logging bees. Neighborhood parties for clearing off land. Lumni Island, Washington.

Magniphone, for megaphone. Heard on street. Seattle.

Mailman, for postman. Almost universally used.

Meander line. "Deeds to those tidelands have been held up for several years because of an erroneous and fraudulent survey of the meander line." *Mason County Journal,* Shelton, Washington.

Meat man, for butcher. The Olympia meat man has again resumed the regular route. *Mason County Journal,* Shelton, Washington.

Mick. Micrometer, in a machine shop.

Mission bells. Fritilaria. Sweetser, Some Oregon Wild Flowers.

Mule skinner. A mule driver.

New mown hay. Achlys leaves.

Off bearer. Man in saw mill who carries lumber away from saw.

Out—free. "Have you this dance out?" Student Expression.

Pack, to, v. Used commonly for "to carry." Built on uses like "pack-horse" etc.

Passer. Shipyard or factory workman who catches red hot rivets thrown from heating pot, and puts them into the hole where they are to go.

Planer ends. Ends of board and lumber from the planing mill. Favorite fuel.

Point of timber. A wooded promontory. "There is some talk of building a floating dock at the point of timber." *Mason County Journal,* Shelton, Washington.

Puncher. A telegraph operator.

Ramole. Whip used for driving cattle while riding horseback.

Realtor. Real estate dealer. Seattle.

Reform Church, Dutch. Coupeville, *Island County Times.*

Ride a fence, to. To ride along a fence. Eastern Oregon.

Ride a range, to. To ride over a range. Eastern Oregon.

Rig(ging) slinger. Employment Agency. Portland, Oregon. The man who is in charge of all the rigging and tackle in a logging camp.

Sack. The man who settles the grain in the sacks. Threshing term. Eastern Washington.

Scrapping. Eating up scraps. Washington.

Scults. Reversions to type. "If you grow them from seed you may have to throw half of them away, for they may be scults." Seattle Public Market.

Separator tender. The man who takes care of the threshing machine or clover huller.

Shiner. A nail driven so that the edge of the head protrudes. You may get an ugly wound from handling one. Salmon packing.

Shipper. A mine which ships its ore away to be smelted. "The Tubal Cain copper mine is to be made into a shipper." *Mason County Journal,* Shelton, Wash.

Shoe cutter. Shoe cutter wanted. U. S. Rubber Co. *Seattle Times.*

Shore dinner. Mrs. ——— gave a shore dinner at Sunlight Beach. *Island County Times,* Coupeville, Washington.

Silverside. A sort of salmon. "Silverside eggs are a little smaller and are bright red, while dog salmon eggs etc." *Mason County Journal,* Shelton, Wash.

Skibby. A rough name for a Japanese. Common nowadays for Japanese without distinction. Is said to have been used ten years ago only for Japanese women of ill repute.

Slab wood. Firewood made of the cuts off a log, which have the bark on.

Slicker. A wild range horse. A term among small boys for a splendid fellow.

Slimmers. Fish cleaners.

Snaps. Red Snapper. Commercial Fisheries.

Sniper. One who snipes logs. Logging Industry.

Snipe, to, v. To chop off the angle of the end of a log, so that the log may be pulled out of the forest more easily. Western Washington Logging.

Spike pitcher. One who helps unload hay. Employment Agency.

Spray rigs. "I am now prepared to repair gas engines or spray rigs." *Cashmere Valley News.* Washington.

Spring queen. Synthyris rotundifolia. Sweetser, Some Oregon Wild Flowers.

Spuds. Two large timbers in front of a dredging machine.

Squaw berry. Osmarina cerasiformis. Sweetser, Some Oregon Wild Flowers.

Swamp hook. Large hook used in rolling logs. Horses are hitched to it. Logging.

Swamp out, to. To cut brush away. Logging term.

Swamper. One who swamps out a given area. Logging.

Tableman. Man who directs the flow of sand and dirt, thereby levelling the fill. Dredging term.

Teacherage. A cottage for the teacher, built close to the rural schoolhouse. Cf. vicarage, parsonage. Western Washington.

Tow of logs. "The north wind strewed a tow of logs over the beach." *Island County Times,* Coupeville, Washington.

Twister. A man who rides a wild horse. Eastern Oregon.

Vanilla leaves. Achlys leaves.

Washout. When the dirt starts going in under the walls and settles outside the fill. Dredging term.

Whistle punk. Boy who blows the whistle on a donkey engine.

White elephant. A grain combine. Eastern Washington.

Wire man. Man who pulls down the wire upon which the hops are trained, before the pickers. Hop Industry, Oregon.

Yack. Term of contempt, like "goof."

ROBERT MAX GARRETT.

University of Washington, Seattle.

DIALECT WORDS IN OLD NEWSPAPERS

I have in previous communications drawn attention to files of newspapers as sources of information. Until I went South early in 1917, I supposed that the civil war had destroyed nearly everything of this kind. But I was mistaken. In Savannah, Charleston, Wilmington (N. C.), Norfolk, and Richmond, and doubtless in a dozen other cities south of Mason and Dixon's line, abundant material may be found, in some cases antedating the American Revolution. I will give one instance.

The verb *toll* or *tole* is illustrated in my Glossary by examples 1835-1867, including one case in which Mr. Underwood of Kentucky (1839) said in the House of Representatives at Washington. "I will take the dogs off, and leave you to *tole* or drive the hogs out." This verb was commonly used in Georgia justices' notices, 1789-91, as thus: 'Archibald S. has *tolled* before me a yellow bay gelding.' 'Absalom R. has *tolled* before me a bald eagle horse.' 'David H. *tolls* before me a white and red pied cow.' These specimens I found in the *Augusta Chronicle*.

Like many other 'Americanisms,' this word can be traced to the Elizabethan period. The N. E. D. quotes from Carew's Tasso, 1594:—'She . . . with sweet sighes them on doth *toule*.' Jefferson uses it in 1801:—'To *toll* us back to the times when we burnt witches.' Perhaps some correspondent can say wether it is quite obsolete.

Richard H. Thornton.

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

In discussing with me the list of North Carolina words in *Dialect Notes*, V, Part I (1918), Prof. Henderson offered the following interesting and suggestive comments, which he has given me permission to publish.

WORDS

Bigoty is preferable to *biggety*, for the word is probably a colloquial pronunciation of *bigoted*.

Mommick, mommix also has the meaning 'to mess, to spoil.'

Add *ornery*, ordinary, common, contemptible, "measly."

Plug-ugly, a very ugly person, may be connected with *plug*, a worthless horse.

Add *rambunctious*, noisy, hilarious.

Scrouge is pronounced *scrowj* also.

Add *shoe-mouth*, the opening down the front of a laced shoe.

Sookie, sukey, is generally pronounced *sukey*, not sookie.

Sore-back was originally applied to the indentured servant class, the victims of the whipping-post, and later came to be used as a general term of contempt.

PHRASES

Add *light-in*, begin.

Add *step off the carpet*, to marry.

Add *What is this?* What is the price of this article (I am pointing to)?

J. M. STEADMAN, JR.

Chapel Hill, N. C.

"HOBO"

This word is entered in the dictionaries as of uncertain etymology. The following story of its origin is vouched for by a relative of mine who was working on the Oregon Short Line railroad in the 1880's.

The mail carriers on the Oregon Short Line used the call "Ho, boy!" when they were delivering mail. Gradually these me-

came to be called "hoboys." Then those who travelled along the tracks, not carrying mail, came to be so called. In its final stage of development, the *-y* was dropped and the word used indiscriminately to designate vagrants.

H. R. JEFFREY.

Delhi, Iowa.

EARLY COLONIAL ITEMS

[The following notes indicate that there remains a considerable number of uses not yet garnered from American writers of the seventeenth century. Collections from such sources are especially desirable.—EDITOR.]

exuberant, adj. Large. "The town Rate .. . raised not any *exuberant* salaries for the ministers."—C. Mather, Life of John Eliot, Boston, 1691, p. 32.

greaten, v. t. To increase. "If any do come hither to *greaten* their wealth."—John Eliot, from a letter printed in T. Thorowgood, Jews in America, London, 1660, p. 21.

handy, adj: "Such as lived in England upon their *handy* labors, and had nothing to live on, have not a little mended their outward means" [in Massachusetts].—Idem, p. 21.

headpiece, n. Brain. "I have used my best skill and *hedpes* to discover anything that might tend to the hurt of our nation."—Thomas Mayhew, Letter of 1671, in Some Correspondence of the N. E. Company, London, 1897, p. 42.

out, v. t. To drive out. "Noble and Zealous attempts towards *outing* him [the Devil] of his Ancient possessions here."—C. Mather, Life of John Eliot, Boston, 1691, p. 74.

susception, n. "Nothing but a Call from the Son of God could have encouraged him into the *susception* of it" [the ministry].—Idem, p. 47.

G. P. WINSHIP.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

1918–1920.

A period of lessened activity on the part of the Society has necessarily accompanied the high costs and diversion of interest during the years 1918-1920. In conformity with the Modern Language Association of America no general meeting was held in 1918, and none in 1919. Publication was unavoidably cut down from two numbers to one number annually. Nevertheless, there have been but three resignations of membership as against thirty-four new members. Many collectors are gathering word lists in the south and west, with the result that a considerable amount of collections await publication. The library of the Society has been enlarged by a collection of British dialect books and pamphlets formerly the property of John Hyde, of Washington, D. C.

The 1920 meeting of the Society was held at Vassar College on the afternoon of December 29th. About seventy members and a number of visitors were present. The 1920 officers were re-elected with the exception of the Treasurer. Mr. J. Tucker Murray, appointed Treasurer pro tem. by the Executive Committee vice Mr. R. W. Gordon resigned, owing to new duties could not be a candidate for further service. The Treasurer elected for 1921 is Dr. Taylor Starck, Instructor in German at Harvard University. The auditing of the Treasurer's Report was referred to the Executive Committee. Professor Edward Everett Hale, Jr., then read an interesting and much discussed paper on "Place Names in Schenectady County."

PERCY W. LONG, *Secretary.*

AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY.

Report of Treasurer for 1917.

1917			
Jan.	1.	To Balance	$ 82.90
		To Membership dues and Sales of D. N.	407.61
			$490.51

PAID.

1917			
Jan.	17.	Postals	$ 2.50
Feb.	16.	Printing Postals	1.25
"	16.	Postage Stamps	.98
"	24.	Printing Dialect Notes	150.00
March	13.	" " "	125.00
Apr.	14.	" " "	90.00
July	1.	" " "	53.91
"	14.	Postage Stamps	1.00
Dec.	24.	Treasurer's Percentage	20.38
"	24.	Compiling Index	35.00
			$480.02
Dec.	26.	Cash on hand	10.49
			$490.51

ASSETS.

Cash on hand	$ 10.49
Permanent Fund	254.49
	$264.98

There is in addition three years' accumulated interest on the Permanent Fund at 3½%.

LIABILITIES.

Printer's bill to Nov. 1	$296.25

The bill for printing the second number of D. N. for 1917 has not been rendered.

GEORGE D. CHASE, *Treasurer.*

Orono, Maine, Dec. 26, 1917.

Report of Treasurer for year ending January 1, 1919.

RECEIPTS.

1918			
Jan.	1.	To Balance	$ 10.49
		To Membership dues, etc.	406.00
			$416.49

PAID.

1918			
March	16, 18.	Printing and Postage	$ 11.75
April	8.	The Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Co.	200.00
Jan. 1 (1919)		" " "	200.00
			$411.75
Jan. 1 (1919).		Cash on hand	4.74
			$416.49

PERMANENT FUND.

1918			
Jan.	1.		$292.29
"	10.	Gift	23
			$292.52
Jan.	10.	Bought 71 U. S. Gov. War Savings Stamps @ $4.12	$292.52

Report of Treasurer for year ending January 1, 1920.

RECEIPTS.

1919			
Jan.	1.	Balance	$ 4.74
		Membership dues, etc.	269.14
			$273.88

PAID.

1919			
June	10.	250 Post Cards	$ 5.00
		100 Envelopes	3.16
"	13.	Printing 250 postcards and 100 plain cards (Loch Bros.)	2.50
"	20.	75 Envelopes	2.37
Dec.	19.	The Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Co.	250.00
			$263.03
Jan. 1 (1920).		Cash on hand	10.85
			$273.88

PERMANENT FUND.

1920			
Jan.	1.	71 U. S. War Savings Stamps @ $4.36	$309.56

AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY.

Treasurer's Report, January 1, 1920–October 20, 1920.

CREDIT.

1920			
Jan.	1.	Balance	$10.85
Feb.	27.	Membership dues, etc.	22.01
			$32.86

PAID OUT.

1920			
		Charge to annual book fund, P. W. Long, for check of G. E. Stecker, which was not sent Treasurer but was retained by P. W. Long (see letter attached)	$ 8.00
Oct.	20.	Cash on hand	24.86
			$32.86

R. W. GORDON, *Treasurer.*

Berkeley, Cal., Oct. 26, 1920.

AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY.

Report of Treasurer, October 20, 1920–December 23, 1920.

CREDIT.

1920			
Oct.	20.	To Balance	$ 24.86
"	20.	Anonymous Gift	9.00
Dec.	1.	Proceeds from sale of 40 War Savings Stamps @ $4.46 (from Permanent Fund)	178.40
"	23.	Membership dues	89.60
"	23.	Donations to publishing fund	94.00
			$395.86

PAID OUT.

1920			
Nov.	17.	McCarter & Kneeland (Crimson Publishing Co.) 400 postals	$ 7.50
Dec.	1.	The Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Co (Bill of July 1, 1920)	254.53
"	12.	Postage stamps	1.00
"	23.	Cash on hand (in Cambridge Trust Co.)	132.83
			$395.86

ASSETS.

1920			
Dec.	23.	Cash on hand (in Cambridge Trust Co.)	$132.83
"	23.	Permanent Fund, i. e. 31 stamps @ $4.47	138.57

LIABILITIES.

————nil————

J. TUCKER MURRAY, *Treasurer pro tem.*

Cambridge, Mass., December 23, 1920.

DIALECT NOTES.

Volume V, Part IV, 1921.

BEGUILING WORDS.

Some time ago it occurred to me that a certain class of words, known more or less to everybody and handed down from generation to generation, had never been noticed by lexicographers or collectors of dialect. These are words used in practical jokes upon the uninitiated in crafts, business houses, the army and navy, and doubtless in other relations. Most people have heard of the "round square" and "left-handed screw-driver" or "monkey-wrench" for which the young apprentice in certain trades is sent, to be laughed at for his pains when he returns. Few, however, probably realize how many and various are the words of this class, and how integral and permanent a part they are of class dialects. Perhaps, too, the makers of dictionaries have not realized how much humor they have missed in their more serious labors.

To illustrate by a scientific instance of a less common sort, in banks in Cleveland and doubtless other places the new employee is sent from one to the other for, let us say, the "check-stretcher." When he arrives at the other bank he is given the heaviest implement or apparatus at hand to carry back, and of course to return after the hearty laugh at his expense. The young soldier in our late war was sometimes sent for so many "yards of firing-line," or the young sailor for the "key to the compass." How numerous and how ingenious the many words and expressions used to play upon the unwary will be clear from the following list, which could be much increased by some further effort.

anchor watch. A green hand on a Great Lakes freighter was sent to inquire for, or to stand upon the anchor watch.

battery key. Used in coke plant in Cleveland.

beaker mender. In chemical laboratory, Adelbert College.

black white-wash. Painter's joke on apprentice.

bottle stretcher. Laboratory joke.

brass contour. Surveyor's joke, the surveyor's contour being the line of the ground's surface with its undulations.

Broad 76. A student at Western Reserve is asked to call this telephone number and inquire whether there is a call for him. The number is that of the insane asylum.

bucket of revolutions. Factory employee sent for.

bucket of spangles. The employee of a steel manufacturing plant is sent for. Warren, O.

bucket of steam. American battle ship, machinist's division.

bumble-bee feathers. Fictitious article to be obtained.

bugle oil. Young recruit sent for at Officers' Training Camp, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana.

cable stretcher. Telephone employee's joke.

check sifter. Bank joker's expression.

check stretcher. St. Louis and Cleveland.

company line. Young recruit sent for at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

cut four by four. An impossible size, used in advertising office.

drive the geese to water. Farm joke, America and Germany. Sometimes it is *ride the geese,* etc.

electric-light oil. Bank in Cleveland.

English. Athletic coach sent boy to get *English* to put on the baseball.

firing-line. Young recruit sent for so many yards, or simply "firing-line," at Montgomery, Ala. Also in Canada.

flew wrench. Coke plant pleasantry.

four-foot yard stick. Reported from Akron, O.

glass hammer. Steel mill boy sent for.

glass stretcher. Refers to plate-glass, and used in paper company's office.

gondola truck key. Railroad man's joke, a "gondola" being a coal car.

guard-post. Young recruit sent for at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

gun cotton (for the guns). Used in the American navy.

interest table (of wood). Bank employee sent to furniture store for one.

italic period. Printer sends apprentice for.

jitney-scope. Machinist's joke-word.

key to the Chadburn. Great Lakes freighter. The Chadburn is—

key to the chain locker. American navy, the chain locker being the section of the bulkhead in which the anchor chain is kept.

key of Davy Jones' locker. American navy.

key for winding the compass. Lake freighter, Cleveland.

knock the anchor down. Green hand on Great Lakes freighter sent with a boathook to knock the anchor down when it comes to the surface.

leather-faced hammer. Machinist's joke.

left-handed monkey-wrench.

left-handed saw. Carpenter's joke-word.

left-handed screw-driver. Used on Lake freighter.

meat auger. Butcher's joke, Woodsfield, O.

milk the pigeons. American farm.

Miss Campbell. Student of Western Reserve is asked to call a certain telephone number and inquire for. The number is that of the Zoological Garden.

Mr. Linseed Oil. Drug clerk sent for.
mud hook. Coke plant employee sent to get.
paper stretcher. Bank joke.
patent posthole. Farm-hand is asked to obtain.
patent port-hole. Used on Lake freighter.
picket line. Young recruit sent for at Montgomery, Ala.
pie opener. Reported from Odebolt, Ia.
pigeon's milk, can of. Used on employee of coal company.
pill grinder. Pharmacist's joke.
red oil, or red sperm oil. Employee told to get some for the red lantern. Reported from Dayton, O.
rent reducer. St. Louis bank.
round square. Carpenter's joke-word.
shoe-string stretcher. Used in shoe store.
short circuit. Electrician sends employee for one.
skirmish line. Young soldier sent for at Camp Paul Jones, Great Lakes.
sky hooks. Used on Lake freighter, and at steel plant, Youngstown, O.
smoke curler. Machine shop joke.
spark gap. Electrician sends for.
square hole. Employee sent to get some, Odebolt, Ia.
strap-oil. A boy is sent for ten cents worth, and the strap is given him more or less gently.
striped ink. Reported from printing office, Akron, O.
tallow to grease the bottom of the boat, to make it go faster. Lake freighter.
timber stretcher. Joke on arm or about lumber-mill.
three-cornered rat-tail file. Reported from Yarmouth, Me.
type compressor. Printer's joke.
type lice. Printer's apprentice asked to look closely for in the wet type of a form being washed. When he does the type are quickly forced together and his face is badly splashed.
white carbon paper. Office boy sent round the plant to find some.
white diamond dye. Reported from Lake Co., O.
white lamp-black. From store selling paints and oils. Used also at soldier's camp, Montgomery, Ala.
wind the compass. Lake freighter.
wind the crank-shaft. Machine shop of aviation corps.
wind the steam-gauge. Factory employee sent to do.
yard of button-holes. Dry-goods store.

A somewhat different kind of joke-word has been reported to me in one instance, and may easily occur in many. A plumber who wishes to go on some unnecessary errand, as for getting a drink of liquor, says he is going for some "putty." Here of course the joke is not on an apprentice, but on the employer. How many of such words belong to the trades or other callings the unsuspecting public would perhaps be glad to know.

How old are the names of impossible things or actions in the list above, and of these attempts to trap the ignorant? Doubtless we shall never know, except as we may infer the antiquity of humor among men. Did Cain use some joke-word upon Abel in some less malicious mood? In English such words are not early recorded. Old English literature, with its clerical and always serious cast, has apparently no such words or expressions. Middle English has more traces of humor, though there again most of the literature was written by clerics—Chaucer a notable exception, of course—and usually by serious clerics at that. Practical jokes were sometimes played, as by the fox on the wolf in the Middle English poem The Vox and the Wolf, but there as usually with no specific word embodying the joke. Fortunately in the early sixteenth century we do find one of these beguiling expressions in the short poem called *The Birched Schoolboy* (*Babees Book*, Early Eng. Text Soc., p. 404). The small boy, in training for the church, bewails his hard lot since he dislikes school and has a master lacking in humor or humanity. One day the boy is late at school, and, nonplussed for an excuse but with some sense of humor not yet whipped out of him, tells his master that his mother had bade him "milk the ducks." The serious master, however, is not to be beguiled by an expression he may have heard for the first time, or by the humor of its use under the circumstances. The situation is given in the following stanza:

My master lokith as he were madde:
"Wher hast thou be, thow sory ladde?"
"Milke dukkis,* my moder badde."
Hit was no mervayle thow I were sadde,
Whay vaylith it me though I say nay?

The following stanza details the birching in no uncertain terms. and strengthens our sympathy with the young culprit who, in the face of his hard master, could use, doubtless with twinkling eyes, this first joke-word I have found recorded in our literature.

OLIVER FARRAR EMERSON.

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* *Milked dukkis* the MS. reads, perhaps indicating that the copyist did not understand the expression, or more likely that, in writing the first, he has anticipated the *d* of the following word. *Milke* is clearly an infinitive completing the meaning of *badde* at the end of the line.

ADDITIONAL UNREAL OBJECTS USED IN PRACTICAL JOKES

Readers of Marryat, especially of "Midshipman Easy" and "Peter Simple," will recall beguiling terms as mysteries of the sea. A study of their spread through the various apprenticeships would be of no little interest.

buttonholes, get a dozen. Tailors' term.
can of compression.
carbon paper, white.
carload of geese, flat. Reported from Maine.
crossphile sawdust, to.
fly wheel stretcher. Auto shop term.
green fiddle painted red.
hot water and ashes. Nautical information for greenhorns that "nothing but water and ashes can be thrown to windward."
key to the skylight.
naro. Poker term for a four card flush or straight, sometimes used for any valueless hand.
snipe hunt. Equivalent to *hold the bag.*

The victims' unsuspecting acceptance of these expressions illustrates strikingly the normal conventionalization of phrasing which so quickly buries the "fossil poetry" of speech.—*Ed.*

JAMAICA PROVERBS

[The following collection of Jamaican sayings was made by Mr. Harry A. Franck during a prolonged stay on the island. Pending the preparation of an article on the dialect of Jamaica, it is printed with numbers to facilitate cross reference to the proverbs as illustrative sentences. Such lists retain much of the atmosphere of dialect which is lost in tabulated word items.—*Ed.*]

1. Alligator come from sea tell you say shark hab bellyache believe him.
2. Ants follow fat, fat drown ants.
3. Ah no because cow no hab tongue, mak cow no talk.
4. Ah no because 'creech owl no hab eye mek him no fly a day.
5. Ashes cowl dog sleep in dey.
6. Ah no every chain you hear a fe rollin' calf.
7. Ah no want a fat mek nightengale leg tan so.
8. Ah no one time monkey want wife.
9. Ahnancy ge him wife name to-morrow dey.
10. Any drum beat under water bottom de sound muss come a top.
11. Ah swift mek wass—wass no gather honey.
12. Ah fast mek ahnancy dey a house top.
13. Ah no same time leaf drop a water bottom it rotten.
14. Ah me come to dis o dey far.
15. Ah no every thing come ah you mouth you fe talk.
16. Any pipe will fit you mouth.
17. Ah no ebery day rain ah go come light.
18. Blood follow vein.
19. Bush hab ears—wall hab yeye.
20. Bull owl (old) dem tek wis-wis tie him.
21. Bull owl junjoe grow 'pon him kin.
22. Big wud no tear man jaw bone.
23. Better fe water trow 'way, dan gourd fe bruck.
24. Black man tief, him tief half a bit; buckra tief, him tief whole a estate.
25. Bowl go, packey come.
26. Behind daag a daag, befo' daag a Mista daag.
27. Beg water can't boil cow 'kin.
28. Brag a berry good daag, but holefas a betta.
29. Big blanket mek man sleep late.
30. Bum, ah no purpose, but bum, bum, a purpose.
31. Before prapra bring fight mek ground slipple.
32. Boy want fe go a town wha you tink massa say fe saddle horse.
33. Brown man wife eat cockroach in a corner.

34. Better sleep hungry dan play wid boy pickney.
35. Bragging river never drown somebody.
36. Before dog go without supper, him eat cockroach.
37. Bad famble better dan empty pig stye.
38. Better fowl say "dog dead," dan fe say fowl dead.
39. Bull horn never too heavy fe him head.
40. Billy goat sweat but ah long hair cover it.
41. Better half ah knife ketch fire dan old house burn down.
42. Bull frog no know how him back stan, him no stoop under iron gate.
43. Black goat sweat never show.
44. Bad pasture mek sheep shabby.
45. Chip nebber fall down too farra from de block.
46. Cow say "Buckra work nebber done."
47. Callalu a swea (swear) fe ole woman, ole woman a swear fe callalu.
48. Crab walk too much, him lose him claw.
49. Cock crow 'trongest pon him own dung'll (dunghill).
50. Call John Crow "peel head" turkey bex.
51. Cockroach mek dance him no axe fowl.
52. Cut you coatie by you cloth.
53. Crab no walk him no get fat.
54. Cotton tree fall down ram goat jump over it.
55. Coward man keep soun' bone.
56. Cow mek fight, horse no business dey.
57. Cock mout' kill cock.
58. Cuss-cuss cyaan bore hole a you 'kin.
59. Cow dead gone loab him 'kin fe gib trouble.
60. Cockroach nebber in de right befo' fowl.
61. Crab say him no trus' no shadow after dark.
62. Cunnie betto an obeah.
63. Come see me, an' come lib wid me ah 2 different thing.
64. Cow say him belly big nuf fe bear everything.
65. Cunnie better dan 'trong.
66. Ceitful lib a handful gate.
67. Can't ketch quaquo you ketch him shut (shirt).
68. Cockroach eber so drunk, him never wheel ah fowl door.
69. Ceitful roast plaintain, cunnie scrape it.
70. Craven choke puppy.
71. Cunnie learn a fren door.
72. Cane no grow like grass.
73. Cedar board laugh after dead man.
74. Cashew never bear guavo.
75. Cotton tree ever so big but little axe cut him.
76. Crooked pass hard fe fine.
77. Don't draw chokie mek bird see you.
78. De blin' a not'ing but a de rod.
79. Don' broke down de bridge you jus' cross.
80 Dog nebber nyam dog.

81. Dog drink water 'fe you, fe you; but massa God a fe we all
82. Dog use fe eat egg, hard fe broke him off.
83. De dog that fetch a bone will carry 'way another.
84. De longer de horse tail, de easier him can brush way fly.
85. De longer de horse tail de easier him can dutty de rider.
86. De bigger de fish, de mo butta i' tek.
87. Dawkin horse, Dawkin corn.
88. Duppy know who fe frighten.
89. De truth is de gate.
90. Do lilly better dan point finger.
91. De more you look a de less you see.
92. De furda you 'tan de betta you see.
93. De mor' you lib, de mo' you larn.
94. Don't wait till de drum beat before you grine you axe.
95. Don't hang you goadie higher dan you can reach.
96. Don't cry over milk wha trow way already.
97. De bes man fe ketch a tief is a tief.
98. Dog sweat but long hair kibber am.
99. Dog belly full pitatoe hab 'kin.
100. Dog say him ma-me dead no hurt him like mos' night rain.
101. Dog ah dog an' man ah man.
102. Dog among doctor, cockroach among shaven.
103. Habee-habee no wantee-wantee, wantee-wantee no habee-habee.
104. De tune you da play a no de one me dancing, an' de rope you da cut a no ne one me pulling.
105. Dog hab liberty fe watch Governor.
106. Dog nebber run 'traight.
107. Do fe do mek guinea grass come a Jamaica.
108. Dog hab too much owner, him sleep wid out supper.
109. De man dat slow fe promise sure fe keep him word.
110. Deserve praise and you get am.
111. Dog run fe character him no run fe him life.
112. Dog hab money him buy cheese.
113. Ebery dog tink himself a lion in a him massa yard.
114. Ebery time fowl lay him try fe tell wul (world).
115. Ebery time donkey bray him 'member someting.
116. Ebery day no Christmas, nor every day rainy day.
117. Ebery day you juick donkey, one day him wi kick up.
118. Ebery John Crow tink him pickney white.
119. Ebery man honest until de day him catch.
120. Ebery day bucket go a well one one day him bottom wi lef da.
121. Ebery day debil help tief, one day God wi help watchman.
122. Ef new hoe wish fe know how groun' tough mek him axe ole hoe
123. Ebery heart bear him own bitterness.
124. Ebery bird sing him own tune.
125. Ebery foot feel him own pinching.

126. Ebery tub sit down pon him own bottom.
127. Ebery man tumble down him hole pan him own knee.
128. Ebery day rain go a river but river can't go ah rain.
129. Ebery bickel fe nyam but no ebery 'tory fe talk.
130. Ears no hear, heart no leap.
131. Ebery man know wha him house a leak.
132. Ebery dog hab him day an' ebery puss him our o'clock.
133. Ebery day ah fishing day but no ebery day a ketching day.
134. Ebery dog know him dinner time.
135. Ebery haul of de net a no ebery fine fish da go ketch.
136. Fowl nyam done, wipe mout' a dutty.
137. Follow fashin mek monkey cut him tail.
138. Fowl gravel him chicken, him no tell hawk fe pick him up.
139. Fe me breakfast ah no fe you dinner.
140. Fe you cry, fo you burying.
141. Finger stink you can't cut it off trow way.
142. Far pass mek oakro spoil.
143. Follow wass-wass you burn down you house.
144. Fowl nebber see egg, him see white stone him call it egg.
145. Fowl merry hawk a go pick him chicken.
146. Fuss laugh ah no de ending.
147. Finger nebber say "look yah" him say "look dere."
148. Full belly tell hungry tek heart.
149. Gi monkey fe black dog, a changie fe changie.
150. Gredy choke puppy.
151. Gi-mi-mo-bit say him a fly go up a God, him tumble down can't git up again.
152. Go da pickney mumma yard you sure te ge something.
153. Get a quattie betta dan a kick.
154. Good boy a nickname fe fool.
155. Good fren betta dan pocket money.
157. Goat say him hab wool, sheep say him hab hair.
158. Green bush can't boil fat.
159. Goat in a too much grass him bawl, you tek him put ah kitchen corner him climb pon stone.
160. Goat nebber fine fe cratch him back till him see wall.
161. Gib me to-day's meat yessaday bread an' last year wine an de doctor can go.
162. Horse a gallop no hear wha him back foot a say.
163. Horse commence fe tek too much a him own exercise danger no far off from him.
164. Hog commence fe dance rain soon wet him.
165. Horse nebber too good fe carry him own grass.
166. Horse use to corn him hear gravel self him will come.
167. Half a loaf is better dan none at all.
168. Holla goadie mek de mos' noise.

169. Ha de willing horse dem saddle de mos.
170. Head want hanketchif so foot gat it a tupid.
171. Howdy come from door.
172. Hen nebber mash him chicken too hot.
173. How puss walk ah no so him ketch ratta.
174. Half a fumble better dan burying groun'.
175. Hog nebber see mollases when him see it him walla in da.
176. House trash cover character.
177. Hard ears pickney walk two time.
178. Hard word no brok bone.
179. Hab money hab fren.
180. Horse hab no business a cow fight.
181. Hungry mek monkey blow fire.
182. Hungry belly tell belly full keep heart.
183. Hang you bankra wha you hand can reach.
184. Hungry belly an' belly full no travel same pass.
185. Hand full come hand full go.
186. Fire dey behind man, him tink a cool breeze.
187. If you can't stan lick no play stick.
188. If you hab sash window no trow stone.
189. I lub pickney, but I don't eat wid dem.
190. I eat wid de devil but I tek ca' him.
191. I deal wid de devil but I use long spoon.
192. Idle man head a debil workshop.
193. In ebery lie dere's a little truth.
194. If you get hold of de blade mine how you draw.
195. If you get you han' in a debil mout' tek time ta you draw it out.
196. If you wish fe lib long ax naygur leave.
197. If you crape goadie you fine worm hole.
198. If you no done grow no laugh after long man.
199. If you wan't fe know you frien' from yu enemy form drunk lay down a pass.
200. If you want fe taste ole woman pot you fe cratch him back.
201. If you no know how you stay no swallow macca seed.
202. If you no walk you no see puss a cock eye.
203. If you keep you finger nail clean you can put it in a gentleman dish.
204. If you go a cross-pass you see ole woman no trouble him.
205. If you see fipance you know how dollar mek.
206. If foot miss pass him can fine it, but if mout' miss pass him can't fine it.
207. If puss no hab cheese him eat pear.
208. John Crow ben well wan't go da Northside, wha you tink when sea breeze tek him.
209. Jackass say, dis wul no lebbil, no lebbil.
210. John Crow say him da dandy man but him put on him bald head fe mek fas smaddy fine fault 'bout him.

211. John Crow nebber mek house till rain come.
212. John Crow say him da dandy man when him da so-so fedda.
214. Keep clean a ole house les' i' tumble down pon you.
215. Keep you secret in you own goadie.
216. Kip Sensay fowl fe pick obeah.
217. Keep two pon ten.
218. Kitchen dresser tumble down meagre dog glad.
220. Long debt betta dan ole grudge.
221. Lilly at a time sarb long.
222. Larn to dance a home befo yu go outside.
223. Long sikness bring deth, deth mek alteration.
224. Lawyer look pon black naygur wid one yeye but him look pon him pocket wid two yeye.
225. Lib well man go tell Gubnor howdy.
226. Long run short ketch.
227. Lizard nebber know wha him da till him in a puss mout'.
228. Lie worst dan tief.
229. Little crab ole poil big race horse.
230. Little water kill big fire.
231. Lizard nebber plant corn but him hab plenty.
232. Lass pickney always kill mumma.
233. Mule say buckra work mus' done.
234. Mauger dog redder go wid out dinner dan mek mos' night rain wet him.
235. Monkey dog name tan an' see.
236. Man no walk a night nebber see puss hab cock eye.
237. Mus pay fe larn sometime.
238. Man a eat good, bad a watch him.
239. Man hate you him gi you basket fe fetch water.
240. Man no done grow mus'n laugh after short man.
241. Man dead him done.
242. Man dead grass grow a him door.
243. Man hab fe tek de will de deed sometime.
244. Many a bone a dung'ill come off a good man table.
245. Man caan married an' no hab dry cocoon a riberside.
246. Mark twice befo you cut once.
247. Monkey say wha' da a him jaw bone no fe him, wha a him belly fe him.
248. Man spit white but blood da a you 'tomach.
249. Man no hab notin fe do, go a pasture tell cow howdy.
250. Me com fe drink milk me no come fe count cow.
251. Man get in a trouble pickney breeches fit him.
252. Monkey nebber say him pickney ugly.
253. Me trow me corn a door me no call neighbour fowl fe pick it up.
254. Man can't smoke and whistle same time.
255. Misfortune nebber trow cloud.

256. Man eber so hearty dead a watch him.
257. Mean man go a market two time.
258. Man no know him no know fe true.
259. Mauger plaintain better dan none at all.
260. Man sleep in a fowl nes' but fowl nes no him bed.
261. Monkey pickney nebber walk a groun'.
262. Mumma a ashes betta dan mumma a grave.
263. Me play wid pickney but me no share dem fish.
264. Nebber buy puss in a bag.
265. No buy ranstid butter fe food tom cat.
266. Nebber you pass you fuss luck.
267. No pull out you inside gi 'tranger den tek trash tuff you self.
268. No cut you nose fe 'poil you face.
269. Nyoung cock crow ater de ole one.
270. No call alligator long mout' till you pass him.
271. Nothing go pan jackass back no go under him belly.
272. Nothing now so no come ole.
273. No mek goat watchman fe breadfruit tree.
274. No mine mek ship run shore.
275. No ebery ting wha got sugar sweet.
276. Nebber call forty-leg name.
277. Nanny goat nebber cratch him back till him see wall.
278. No catchee no habee.
279. Nebber mek you sail too big fe you ship.
280. Nebber sue lice to get a nit.
281. Ole grudge mek pattoo lay egg.
282. One finger can't catch louse.
283. One tief nebber like fe see anodda tief trive.
284. Ole woman dey a fire side ram goat won't hong himself.
285. Ole man ben wan't go a town, wha say sea breeze come tek him.
286. One daddy fe twenty pickney, but twenty pickney no fe one daddy.
287. One fool no fool but two fool a fool.
288. Ole fire stick no hard fe ketch.
289. Ole coachman nebber forget him rain.
290. Order monkey, monkey order him tail.
291. Ole basket no good fe notin' but fe ca' dutty.
292. Ole cock crow young wan larn.
293. One eye man ah king a bline eye country.
294. Poun' wort a fret nebber pay quattie wort a debt.
295. Pon de long run de cheapes' is de deares'.
296. Puss gone ratta tek house.
297. Patient man ride jackass.
298. Parson christen him owne pickney fuss.
299. Puppy nyam ratta done him out capoose pon John Crow.
300. Fuss name him pickney we all wi feel am.
301. Pig ask him mumma wha mek him mout so long, him say pickney you da a wul.

302. Plantain ripe ca'n't green again.
303. Pot full pot kibber get some.
304. Poor ketch Abba a low groun' him turn sarvant fe dog.
305. Play wid puppy dem lick you mout'.
306. Poor show big wid out bunch a key.
307. Play, play kill bud.
308. Poor man pickney walk one be one rich men pickney walk be de gang.
309. Piece a famble beeta dan burying groun'.
310. Puss an dog can nebber agree.
311. Quatty buy trouble hundred pound can't tek it off.
312. Rock-a-tone a ribber bottom no feel sun hot.
313. Rub ole woman back, him mek you tase him pepper pot.
314. Runnin bout too much is de ruin of woman an fowl.
315. Rain nebber fall a one man door.
316. Saucy cow mek wain-tongue.
317. Softly softly catch monkey.
318. Softly river run deep.
319. Same ting sweet mout' hu't belly.
320. See somet'ing befo' somet'ing see you.
321. Somet'ing stan' long sarb nodder man.
322. Somet'ing no tan good a morning, cant tan good a night.
323. Sickness ride horse come but walk foot go 'way.
324. Sometime water more dan flour.
325. Sometime Big-da-do' no hab cocoa head a barrel.
326. Sometime high standing collar stan' top a empty belly.
327. Sensa fowl no cry fe feader, him cry fe libbin.
328. Sweet mout fly follow coffin go a grave.
329. Same knife stick sheep wi' stick goat.
330. Short pass draw blood, long pass draw sweat.
331. Seven year cant too long fe tek 'peckle off a guinea hen back.
332. Same day man get good soup him no get good fuffoo.
333. So cow a grow so him nose hole a open.
334. Somet'ing no do you, you no sabby somet'ing.
335. Snake bite you you see lizard you run.
336. Snake say "if him no hole' up him head female tek him tie wood."
337. Stone da a ribber bottom no know wha dem a shore, side a feel.
338. Sen' out pickney you foot res' but you heart no res'.
339. Somet'ing hurt snake him climb tree.
340. Spaniard chicken cry for life him no cry fe character.
341. Strong eye pickney nebber hab right.
342. Stranger drum head wid cocoa leaf but famble drum head wid goat skin.
343. Sake a fowl bone brown man have a nasty way.
344. There's a chance fe de bird as well as de gun.
345. Tek up Gi-me-bit egg you tek up trouble, put it down you put down you luck.

346. Talk wid hog no expect not'ing but a grunt.
347. Stranger no fe walk a back door.
348. Trouble no set like rain.
349. Trouble dey a bush Ahnancy bring come a house.
350. Talk too much you pay you puppa debt.
351. Too much cousin broke shop.
352. Too much rat dig bad hole.
353. Too much cook spoil the soup.
354. Too much sid-dung broke trowsers.
355. Tenke to-day a no tenke to-morrow.
356. Tan look see no 'poil dance.
357. Tan farra you see bettor.
358. Time longer than rope.
359. To-day fe me to-morrow fe you.
360. Two time cobite somet'ing wanten.
361. Tom drunk but Tom no fool.
362. Toad say him hope fe betta day but John Crow say him turn him head a northside him get better in'.
363. The house wha shelter you when a rain, you fe look fe him when sun hot.
364. Tief man coco him 'tick a yam rib.
365. To-morrow is de burden ob de fool.
366. Try you fren' in small t'ing use him in great.
367. To-day cant ketch to-morrow.
368. The more you lib de more you larn.
369. Tudderation betta an edication.
370. Tek you own eye sleep.
371. Time nebber too long fe bonnabis bear bean.
372. Trouble ketch man, pickney frock fit him.
373. When bull commence fe dig grung look fe tree.
374. Wal fe nutten betta dan siddung fe nutten.
375. Wile hog say him nebber pass him fuss wash.
376. Willing pickney belly high unwilling pickney belly flat.
377. When you hab plenty 'member rainy day.
378. When the rum is in de wit is out.
379. When ram goat rail up a'ter you look out.
380. When maggitch-fly tek ram goat horn him fine him massa yard.
381. When belly full potato hab 'kin.
382. When fly da bodder mauger mule nobody see but when him kick dem say him bad.
383. When John Crow see horse mauger him roast plantain fe him.
384. What drop off a head go down 'pon shoulder.
385. Water follow foot track.
386. What a come you wait ta it come, but what a go you run go see.
387. Wound well but mark da da.
389. When hab bad husban' no mek you sweetheart ca you half way.

390. Wash people pickney but no wash dem back.
391. When dog foot broke him fine him owner door.
392. Woman cow ole you tel him 'woo' him an up mek you milk him.
393. What fit mosquitto cant fit elephant.
394. What sweet billy goat a it da go run him belly.
395. When you see puss climb prickly yallo tree you must know.
396. When you trow rocka-tone a hog stye hog cry 'queech' a him it knock.
397. When fowl a sleep duck a walk.
398. You wan' know if ants hab entrails mash dem.
399. You hardly ebber see a kicking cow birout a kicking calf.
400. You cant sid-dung pon cow back so cuss cow 'kin.
401. You lub de cow you fe lub de calf.
402. You hear cock a crow fass fass, wait day soon light.
403. You wan't hear how story go wait till quarrel come.
404. You play wid puppy, puppy lick you mout'.
405. You 'carcely ebber se smoke wid out fire.
406. You hea' debil a come clear de way.
407. You yerrie ribber da broke wood mek you way.
408. You hab a shilling, wash de shilling, drink the water an keep de shilling.
409. You hab lilly, you put lilly a pot, you hab plenty you put plenty a pot.
410. You knee weak dig hole put in you foot save you from fall down.
411. You run too fast you run two time.
412. You see ebery body a run tek time.
413. You see ebery body a jump pon half a foot, jump you self.
414. You know way water walk go a punpkin belly?
415. You wan ketch tief fine him track.
416. You see lizzard a lick him mout' him tase somet'ing nice.
417. Young bud no fe fly too farra.
418. You care for mauger cow a you him buck.
419. You cant ketch quacco you ketch him shut.
420. You no walk you no see puss a cock eye.
421. You see house tan up you no go inside you no know how it tan.
422. You no dun cross ribber no trow way you stick.
423. You cant tek nodder man eye sleep.
424. Dog mauger him head big.
425. Ebery jack ass tink him pickney a race horse.
426. When half a cutlass cut you it mek bigger wound dan new one.
427. Empty bag cant sit down, full one cant ben'.
428. Cousin boil sweet soup.
429. Sharpen knife lef place fe you han' hole.
430. Two head better dan one.
431. Spit a sky it full a you face.
432. Hard push mek mulatto woman keep saddler shop.

433. Shame no kill man but it brok him neck.
434. Some people know you a moonshine but dark night dem shake fire tick a you face.
435. Black fowl no belong to you, you call him jan-crow.
436. Lib well mek cow tek him horn wring tree.
437. Dead hog no fraid fe boilin' water.
438. Howdie, tenkie, brok no square.
439. Bad wud and ears hole nebber agree.
440. Dog got shine teeth him show butcher.
441. One lick you ge monkey him clime tree.
442. Falla fashion jubba nebber tan good.
443. When sensa-dry-gully come down junjo tek start.
444. Whatever come light scurve round brick.
445. Bit-bit mek pound.
446. No mek mudfish tail touch water.
447. No trow way dutty water befo' you hab clean one.
448. Sharp spur mek mauger horse cut caper.
449. No trus pigeon in a corn piece.
450. Sweet soup mek man drink ants.
451. Spider an fly can nebber mek bargain.
452. Stranger no know wha water deep in a de pass.
453. Shut mout' no ketch fly.
454. Play with monkey no play wid him tail.
455. Cry-cry pickney nebber hab right.
456. Hot needle burn tred.
457. You promise sensa-fowl anything him a look fe it.
458. New broom sweep clean, but ole one fine de corner.
459. Hen swear fe him egg him no swear fe him chicken.
460. All head a head but all luck no luck.
461. Cubbitch fe one plum you lose the whole.
462. You wan' all you lose all.
463. De mo' you look de less you see.
464. Scornful dog nyam dutty pudding.
465. Han a bowl knife a troat.
466. Chigga know fe who foot him go.
467. Lub me lub me dog.
468. Slip a de tongue no juggle a de head.

HARRY A. FRANCK.

A WORD-LIST FROM CALIFORNIA

California offers a fine opportunity to the collector of words. Its size, its peculiar history, its natural diversity, the varied industry and the varied idleness of its inhabitants, a remarkable disposition to 'create' words, all enrich the field. The following list is selected from a longer one collected in an effort to break ground. Long special collections of words of Spanish and of Oriental origins, of pioneer phrases and words now in disuse, of occupational jargons, among others, must be made. For the moment here is a beginning.

GENERAL WORDS.

ag, n. An agate marble. Boy's usage.

aggie, n. See preceding.

blood-poison, n. Blood-poisoning. 'He died of blood-poison.'

to blow around, vb. To come to see or visit, or to go to see or visit.

to blow in; to blow out, vb. To enter, to arrive; to leave, to depart.

clever, adj. Smart, elegant. 'That's a clever suit.'

con, n. Conductor. General and especially among railroad employees.

cot, n. Apricot. Newspapers and orchard people.

dobie, doby, n. and adj. 1. adobe. 2. a clay marble. Originally probably a contraction of 'an adobe' or 'the adobe'.

dogee, dogie, n. dō'gy. A young calf, a young lamb. 'The dogie died this morning.' Reported also from Arizona.

duck knuckle, adj. ph. A manner of shooting a taw, in marbles, propelling from between the first and second joints of the index finger instead of with the thumb nail from the tip of the index finger. Common in other parts of United States.

hang-out, n. 1. A common loafing-place. 2. One's place of residence.

hay-wire, adj. Of no account, sick, broken, ugly. 'That machine is hay-wire.' 'She's hay-wire.'

jackass brandy, n. A home-made brandy with a powerful 'kick.'

jaywalker, n. One who 'shortcuts' from the regular traffic routes, pedestrian or motor. Etymology confused: from jay, a stupid country fellow, or from the fleetness of the blue-jay. General in southwestern United States, but not common.

little-lander, n. An owner of a small acreage.

to meet up with, vb. tr. To encounter. Western United States.

mickey, n. (mĭk'-ey). A sparrow.

oregon boot, n. A device to hobble criminals in the open, somewhat like the ball and chain but less cumbersome. Said to have been devised in Oregon.

pearl diver, n. A dish washer. Probably borrowed from stage slang.

patootie, n. (pa-tōō'-ti) Sweetheart. Reported from four different localities. Etymology unknown. Suggested, by sweetheart and sweet potato analogy.

penniwinkle, n. In marble games, a little cone of earth upon which a target marble is set up.

purp, n. Pup, dog. Doubtless by the introduction of "the dog's letter."

shiner, n. 1. A man particularly attractive to women. 2. A black-eye. 3. A dollar (cf. Webster N. I. D., a bright piece of money). 4. A boot-black.

shoestring, n. Red wine. Originating, perhaps, in the jocose notion that the dark color comes from the shoes and shoestrings of those who trample the grapes.

short-cut, n. 1. A cut-off. 2. Any device for reducing time element or labor in a piece of work.

to short-cut, vb. intr. 1. To cut across country. 2. To take advantage of any means for reducing time and labor.

to snitch, vb. tr. To steal, usually articles of small value.

temp-stick, n. Thermometer. 'She bit off the temp-stick.'

to want in, vb. intr. To desire to be admitted, to wish to enter.

LOCAL WORDS.

bingle, n. A coin of base metal, value ten cents, used for gambling. Sierra County.

concession, n. 1. A shop near or in a pleasure resort. 2. Any small shop. Particularly in neighborhood of San Diego. 'You can get drawn-work at that little concession over there.'

crick-sand, n. (krĭk'sand) Quicksand. A popular etymology resulting from the almost universal pronuciation of creek as crick. Yolo County.

to drive the hill, vb. ph. To go deer hunting. Sierra and Nevada Counties.

plough-pan, n. Hard earth just beyond the reach of an ordinary ploughshare. San Joaquin Valley.

sandlot Kearny, n. A political agitator. From the fact a man named Kearny used in the 80s to harangue mass meetings on the outlying sandlots of San Francisco. San Francisco Bay Region.

skid, n. Butter. In hot weather, butter looks like grease used on skidways. Lumbercamp in Sierra County.

to smack-down, vb. tr. and intr. To scold severely. Sierra County.

OCCUPATIONAL WORDS.

to blow, vb. tr. and intr. To set off the round, or rounds, of powder. 'He's going to blow before he comes off shift.' Mining.

clycone, n. A heavy drag with large knives underneath, focussed on a center. Etymology, κυκλὼν (?). Farming.

deep-sea turkey, n. Salmon. From fact of salmon being served as holiday fare. Navy, and army.

dog-robber, n. Valet to an officer. One who robs a dog of his place at his master's heels. Army.

to hit the grit, vb. ph. To set off upon a journey. Cattlemen.

to hot-foot, vb. intr. To depart in haste; to travel rapidly. Rangers, cattlemen.

lidder, n. One engaged in nailing tops on crates of cans in a factory. 'Time to stop; the lidder is snowed in.' Canners.

on tower, adj. ph. On shift, at work. Oil fields.

secure, adj. Ship-shape, cleaned up. From fact that on ship board what is 'loose' is out of order. Navy.

snaking-team, n. The six or eight horses used to haul logs out from the woods. Lumbermen.

spick, spig, n. A Philippino, Hawaiian, or native of other Pacific Islands. Navy; Marine Corps.

to zoom, n. To pitch an aeroplane suddenly upward at great speed. Aviators.

STUDENTS' TERMS (University of California).

arm-waver, n. A campus politician.

blow-pipe, n. A rifle.

bugle, n. Head. From the noise made with the head.

bugle-warmer, n. Head covering; hat.

The Brawl, n. Annual freshman-sophomore struggle.

cinch, cinch-notice, n. A warning sent by the college authorities with the object of tightening the student's hold on his work.

to cinch, vb. tr. To cause the authorities to send out a notice to a student.

to drag a blind, vb. ph. To take (or go with) to a dance a girl (or man) one has never seen.

to get a drive out of, vb. ph. To be deeply stirred. By analogy with 'to get a kick out of'.

libe, n. Conventional abbreviation for library. Cf. lab = laboratory.

peptimist, n. A spirited, 'jazzy' person.

to pipe the flight, vb. ph. To observe (and pass comments on) the passing 'coeds'.

Phi Bate (also *fly bait*), n. A number of Phi Beta Kappa.

raghead, n. A Hindu; any Asiatic. From the turbanned Asiatics who are common on the campus.

secret sorrow, n. A love affair, of which the loved one is unaware. Usually of girls.

slanguage, n. Slang. [In general use, jocularly.—*Ed.*]

to step off, vb. ph. To get married.

to step out, vb. ph. To go to a party, dance, or 'feed'.

stepper, n. A student who devotes full time to social life.

to swack, vb. intr. To get drunk.

tea-hound, n. A lady's man.

TERMS FROM THE UNDERWORLD.

to blow a pete, vb. ph. To blow up a safe.
bull, n. 1. A desk sergeant. 2. A plain clothes man.
flat-foot, n. A policeman.
harness bull, n. A uniformed (and belted) policeman.
jolt, n. A term in jail.
rattler, n. A box car. Tramps.
sleep, n. A one-year term in prison.
snitch, n. One who 'squeals'.
snow, n. Cocaine. Underworld, but also general usage.
snow-bird, n. Cocaine fiend.
tattler, n. A night watchman.

CREATED WORDS (general unless otherwise specified).

bootery, n. (bōōt'-er-y). Shoe shop.
dur'al, obad'awewe, okóke, nouns. Boys' maids of all work. 'Gimme that dural down there on that obadawewe. I want to fix this okoke with it.'
scron'go, n. Automobile. Local in a northern community.
cleaneteria, cleanerteria, n. (clean-er-ter'-ja; cleanerte-ri'-a). A cleaning and dyeing establishment.
doughnutry, n. (dō'nŭt-tri). A light lunch cafe. Berkeley.
healthatorium, n. Sanatorium. Pasadena.
to hoganize, vb. tr., rarely intr. (hō'-gan-ize) A method of culling hens from a flock with respect to egg-laying capacity. Invented by Mr. Walter Hogan and described by him in a book, "The Call of the Hen."
hold-over, n. A student who remains in a grade for a second year. Used by students and especially by teachers.
lunchery, n. A lunch room; a restaurant.
renovatory, n. (re-nōv'-a-to-ry; re-nŏv'-a-to-ry). An establishment for cleaning or renovating clothes.
-toggery, n. A haberdasher's shop; a suit shop.

TERMS FOR GROCERY STORES ORGANIZED ON A BASIS OF SELF-SERVICE.

basketeria, n. (bas-ke-terĭ-ja). From the baskets provided, in which the customer collects his purchases. Also from the fact that these institutions do not "deliver."
basket-grocery, n. See foregoing.
cash-and-carry, n. "No credit and no deliveries" is a motto.
grab-and-run, n. Slang designation, satirizing haste of customers to reach a place in line to exit stile.
grocerteria, n. (gro-ser-ter'-ja; gro-ser-te-rī'-a; gro-se-tér-ja). Pronunciation varies. First pronunciation dominant in California; but second is commoner here and there in West as, for example, in Boise, Idaho.
self-help grocery, n.
serve-self grocery, n.

WORDS IMPORTED FROM OTHER STATES OR OTHER COUNTRIES.

daunsy, adj. Downcast, moody. Middlewest original turning up in California.

dry-lander, n. A farmer of irrigated land. Colorado original. Rare in California.

to be between a rock and a hard place, vb. ph. To be bankrupt. Common in Arizona in recent panics; sporadic in California.

hoosegaw, or *hoosegow,* n. (hōōs'-gäw). A jail, or a prison. Slang. 'They chucked him in the hoosegow.' Sp. juzgado > husgado > husgao > hoosegaw. Spanish American, then army usage, then general. Reported common also in middle western states.

larapen, laraping, adj. or adv. Accent first syllable. As adj., very good; as adv., exceedingly. Of southern origin. Widely current in California.

praties, n. Potatoes. Irish. Current.

red-beet, n. Beet. From German *rote-rübe.* Common among people of German origin.

riverpig, n. A lumberman who follows the drive in low water and dislodges logs from bars, mud, etc. Brought by lumbermen from Michigan to California.

snow-bird, n. A workman who comes south during the cold weather to work; often one who 'beats his way'. 'The snow birds will be looking in for work now any day'. From Texas westward in California.

shael and dag, nouns. Cornish usage for shovel and pick. A miner: 'Hey, pardner, cut a sprag as long as a dag and dag handle, shael and shael handle, two big rocks and a piece of string.' The sprag was to have been sixteen feet long.

sooner, n. Originally one of the first settlers in Oklahoma, in days when people took up claims in newly opened lands. In California, occasionally, as an early settler. Old song,

> 'I'm a sooner born, and a sooner bred,
> And when I die, I'll be a sooner dead.'

spreadin'-outer, spreading-outer, n. The spreading adder or hognose snake. From southern negro usage. Rare in California.

tagliarini, n. A kind of macaroni, without perforation and square instead of circular in cross section.

FLOWER TERMS.

blackeyed flirt, n. Brown-eyed Susan.

bloody-nose, n. Indian paint-brush.

bright-eyes, n. Wild violet. Always in plural.

goldarnia, n. Gardenia. Slang.

handsoff, n. Orchid. Slang.

Mexican bean. n. Mesquite bean.

monkey face, n. Monkey flower.

pacifier, n. Violet. Slang.

peeny, piny, n. (pēē-ny; pī-ny). Peony.

red-berries, n. (red'-ber-ries). Toyon berries.

scrambled eggs, n. 1. Sunshine, or Fly-flower (Baeria gracilis). 2. Also butter and eggs (Orthocarpus erianthus).

soap-lily, soap-plant, n. Chloragalum pomridianum.

sungazer, n. Sunflower.

Texas star, n. Cosmos.

ANIMAL TERMS.

hornet toad, n. Popular etymology from horned toad.

horny toad, n. See foregoing.

mountain canary, n. Burro.

Nancy Julia, n. Doe deer. Sierra Nevada.

P. K., or *piket,* n. Pole cat. Sierra Nevada.

rocky mountain canary, n. Burro.

sachet kitten, sachet pussy, n. Pole cat.

wood-pussy, n. Pole cat.

WORDS FOR AUTOMOBILE.

competitive buggy, n. 1. A cheap automobile. From general run-down condition of 'jitneys.' 2. A car with a good engine, from custom of trying to outstrip other cars on road. Slang.

crate, n. An antiquated model. Slang.

glass house, n. A sedan car. Slang.

hay-burner, n. 1. A horse. 2. A smoking-pipe. 3. A cheap automobile. Rural slang, occasionally elsewhere.

heap, n. An automobile, especially if old. A heap of junk. Machine shop; college students.

sea-going tax, n. An early model. Slang.

son-chariot, n. Pun. from fact that a family automobile is often at the primary disposal of the grown son. College students' slang.

torpedo, n. 1. A high powered car. Rare. 2. Any car.

PRONUNCIATION.

by the bye (by-the-bye). A stress which implies that *bye* is a noun, object of preposition by.

catholic (cath'-lic). Two syllables. Almost universal.

cornucopia (cor-ner-cop-i-a). Pronunciation by popular etymology.

creek (krīk). Almost universal.

granary (grā-na-ry). Popular etymology.

Okanagan (o-kin-ä'-gan). Name of a river, town, county, and district in general in Washington State. Universally so pronounced in western United States. *Century Dictionary* gives O-kan'-a-gan.

B. H. Lehman.

University of California, Berkeley.

EARLY ENGLISH SLANG SURVIVALS IN THE MOUNTAINS OF KENTUCKY.

In general, the mountaineer's language is racy and expressive. In keeping with the language of his Elizabethan ancestors, the hillsman has builded up an altar to brevity, which is preferred to both correctness and clearness. As elsewhere, slang has made its inroads into the mountaineer's speech, owing to the necessity for terse, brief forms of expression.

Much of the slang of the Elizabethan period is still used in the Southern mountains. Some Old English slang is also found—the slang of Beowulf and Andreas. The hillsman uses certain set slang words for generations. This may seem strange, if slang is the result of crowding, excitement and artificial life, the life of the city, where there is "something doing" with the dawn of every new day. "How in the nation!" has survived from the days of Andreas and the Fates of the Apostles. "Hu mihte thet gewyrthan in wertheode?" (How in the nation can that be?)—Andreas, line 573.

The dialect list of the mountains doubtless contains many slang words and phrases which, at first sight, would not perhaps be recognized as belonging to the Early English and Elizabethan periods. A possible explanation is that these words and phrases are not found in the writings of the Early English and Elizabethan writers, who did not employ slang so extensively as modern writers. These words have been used for generations among the hillsmen, and must have been transported to Virginia and the Carolinas during the seventeenth century, the great era of colonization. The Slang Dictionary (Chatto and Windus, London) contains a number of these slang words. This lends proof that these words must have come from the British Isles, during the seventeenth century. The Slang Dictionary is a collection of English slang.

If "the purest source of neology is in the survival of old words," with new meanings, then the hillsmen may lay claim to their share of them. These old words belong to the Elizabethan and pre-Elizabethan periods, some of which, under new conditions and environments, have been given new meanings by

the mountaineers. E. g., *dona,* a semi-slang word and term of endearment, meant in England a mother. (Cf. *dona* and *feeles,* woman and child.) In the hills, *dona* means *sweetheart,* usually coupled with "gal," as in "*dony*-gal."

In England, the "cutting of one's eye-teeth" was a supposed evidence of sharpness, intelligence; in the hills it means to humiliate, or cause chagrin. E. g., "Samp greened him out (beat him) in that deal, and it 'cut his eye-teeth.' "

Fudge, v. and n., originally meant nonsense, as now. With the hillsman it means to cheat, or "poke up," in marbles, etc.

Gallivant meant, in England, to be "handy with the ladies"; in the hills, to "frisk about," here and there, as a dude.

Lark meant a joke, or frolic; a "larker" in the hills is a shrewd, mischievous fellow.

Because of the dearth of slang dictionaries in America, it is difficult to determine whether a large or small percentage of the slang that follows, below, may be found elsewhere in the English-speaking world.

bum, v. and n. To *bum* around, to be idle.

case, a person out of the ordinary. "He's a regular *case.*"

clean, quite, entirely. "He's *clean* finished his house." Cf. Cotgrave.

customer, an undesirable person.

daylights. eyes. "I'll beat the *daylights* out of you!"

didoes, to cut, to "act smart," "show off."

give, to strike, or beat. "I'll *give* it you!" Cf. Shaks.

heigh-ho, an exclamation of tiresomeness. (Norwich cant term for stolen yarn.)

lam, to strike, or beat. O. Eng. *lam.*

lamming, a beating. "He got a mighty lammin'. Probably from O. Norse, *lam,* the hand.

let on, to feign, or pretend. Probably Scottish.

let drive, to, to suddenly throw, or shoot.

Cut slip, to, to throw suddenly, or shoot.

mealy-mouthed, a term of disparagement. Formerly, deceitful.

measly, a term of reproach. Mean, miserable looking. From "measles."

nation, what in the, a term of asseveration, mentioned above.

patchin', a small thing, "no larger than the *patching* on a man's pants." Usually used in unfavorable comparison, e. g.: "Nance ain't a *patchin'* to that Barnes gal."

pieded, pied. Variegated. " A *pieded* cow jumped in the field." Cf. Shaks.

hoozle, housle. Among the hillsmen, a *drink* of whisky. Cf. Hamlet, "unhousled"; also the use of this word in the Roman Catholic Ch. ritual.

pepper, to whip, beat; especially in a game at which two boys *pepper* each other with a ball. Hence the game, "red-pepper."

piece, a term of contempt, usually applied to a slovenly, careless girl or woman. Shaks.

proper, very much, exceedingly. This is quite a distinguished and *proper* word among the hillsmen. "Wash. whipped him *proper.*" Also widely used in balladry, e. g.: "There was a fair and a *proper* lady."

push, a crowd, the "whole lay-out." Old cant term.

snack, a light, cold repast. Originally Gipsy cant term, meaning a share or division of plunder.

rip, a woman of ill repute.

ripshack, an old sow.

A number of Irish survivals are found. This does not argue, however, that the Irish element in the mountains of Kentucky is large. Many of these same Irish words were common in England, also.

ruction, a rough-and-tumble, free-for-all fight. In Ireland it was a factional fight.

sap-head, a simpleton, or "sap-skull."

scab, a trifling, good-for-nothing fellow; term of contempt. "Knock that *scab* off that horse's back!"

slap-dab, exactly, precisely. "He hit him *slap-dab* in the eye."

slap-bang, "slap-dab," q. v.

squinch, squint.

squinch-eyed, squint-eyed. Cf. Shaks., *squinny-* or *squinty*-eyed.

stand in with, to, to stand up against one and fight him. In England, to take sides with.

swig, v. and n., a large dram or "snort" of whiskey. "Watch Jason *swig* that moonshine!"

tan, to thrash or soundly beat.

to-do, n, any sort of social function, or "blow-out." Also, any disturbance, or fight. Cf. Fr. "affaire" (a faire), hence Eng. "affair."

When one is performing badly on some musical instrument, one is "playing the tune the old cow died on." The figure is also used for any "quickened-devilish" tune or jig on the violin or banjo, especially when the performer cannot recall the name of the air. A possible origin may be sought in an old ballad referred to by dramatists of Shakespeare's time.

MINOR NOTES

MYSTERY IN SEATTLE

One day while trying to get on a crowded street car, I heard a woman remark to an acquaintance, "It's a mystery to get on the car, isn't it?" Later, as she stood near me in the car, I learned from her conversation that she came from Montreal. My Montreal friends do not know of the word as she used it. Where is it to be found? And is it not a saddening reflection to think how *mistery* has fallen from *an honorable handicraft* to *a hard job?*

ROBERT MAX GARRETT.

University of Washington,
March 9, 1921.

KENTUCKY ITEMS.

actually and candidly, adv. Intensive for certainly, indeed.

crook, n. A short, crooked instrument for lifting caps from a kitchen stove. Otherwise called *ketch* by the hillsman.

fer a fac', adv. phr. For a fact.

fit, adj. Ready, in a manner to. "At the baptisin' yistiddy Bob's gal was dressed *fit* to kill."

friendly, adj. Agreeable, amiable. "Newt's French wife is mighty *friendly.*"

hen-waller-jostle, n. phr. When anything is done in a lively manner, it is done like a "hen-waller (wallow)-jostle"; that is, as a hen lies in the sun, in the dust, and vigorously shakes herself.

kreistle, v. Bother, annoy. "If that wouldn't *kreistle* a'body, it wonders me what would." Henry Co.

marches, n. Military drill. Heard in Perry Co. as early as the War of 1812.

mazzard, n. The head, or skull.

morfadite, n. Hermaphrodite, having the characteristics of both sexes.

new fangled fixins', n. New things.

new teeth, n. False teeth.

perished, adj. Paralyzed. "They say the Kaiser has a *perished* arm."

pound, adj. and v. A *pound* party is a party in which the people voluntarily give the minister a surprise, by carrying in something like groceries, vegetables, etc. "Last night they *pounded* the new preacher."

room of, adv. phr. Instead of; in the place of. Cf. balladry, "In the *room of me.*" Also, Math., II, 22.

round table, n. A sort of two pieced, round dinner table, once very common in the mountains. Dishes of food are placed on the top piece, which revolves. The plates are placed on the larger section, beneath this.

save, v. To make, or gather. "The whole family's a-*savin'* hay and punkins to-day."

scarify, v. To mark with a scar. Taken from a superstition among the hillsmen, that of "scarifying" infants for certain diseases. (See Kentucky Superstitions, by D. L. Thomas).

strip, v. To finish milking a cow (for the second time).

strippin's, n. The last milk from the cow.

sun-pain, n. A pain in the head, at sunrise. Neuralgia, or headache?

wonder, refl. v. Ex.: "It *wonders* me what that boy's about." Henry Co.

zip, n. Syrup, molasses. College slang, Univ. Ky. and Transylvania Col.

Cajan, n. Arcadian, La.

slut, n. A tallow light. Indiana.

horn in, v. phr. Slip in. West.

saw something off on, v. phr. To take advantage of unfairly. West.

TRANSPOSITIONS AND SCRAMBLED WORDS.

aggerfret, aggravate.
Chinwester, Winchester, Ky.
dif of bitterness, bit of difference.
familious, familiar.
fell of a hix, hell of a fix.
gigadier brineral, brigadier general. Military.
mell of a hess, hell of a mess.
osifer, officer.
peckerwood, woodpecker.
scandiculous, scandalous. From scandalous and ridiculous.
super-damned-intendent, damned superintendent.

JOSIAH H. COMBS.

FIRST WARRANT ISSUED IN BREATHITT COUNTY, KENTUCKY.

STATE OF JETT'S CREEK,
Breathitt County, Kentucky.

I, Jackson Terry, Hi official magistrat Squire and Justice of pece, do hereby issu the following rit against Henderson Harris charging him with assalt and the battery and the brech of the pece on

his brutherin law, Tom Fox by name, this warnt cuses him of kickin bitin and scrachin and throin rocks and doin everything that wus mean and contrary to the law in State of Jett's Creek aforesed.
this warent otherises the hy constable, Miles Terry by name to go forthwith and forthcomin and a rest the sed Hendersan Harris and bring him too bee delt with accordin to the law of Jett's Creek and aforesed,
this warent otherises the hy constable to tak him wher he find him on the hil sid as wel as in the level, to tak him wher he aint as wel as wher he is and bring him to me to be delt with accordin to the laws of Jett's creek and aforesed Jinary 2, 1838.

Jackson Terry.

hi constable, magistrit, and squir and Justice of the pece of state of Jett's creek aforesed.

NOTE.—The "aforesaid" appears here as it was transmitted to me, orthography, punctuation, paragraphing, etc., being left intact. It is said to be the first warrant issued in "bloody Breathit"; however, this is not certain. Jett's Creek is a small stream of Breathitt County, which has also figured prominently in the more recent Hargis-Callahan feuds.

JOSIAH H. COMBS.

Hindman, Kentucky.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

[The lately deceased general editor of Webster's New International Dictionary from time to time supplied helpful items of information and criticism. These last received are here gathered together in memory of his repeated helpfulness to the Society. —*Ed.*]

brash (bræʃ), *n,* A great or unusual number coming in rapid succession; flood; rush. "We had a regular *brash* of calls this afternoon." Ill.

dewdad (dûdæd), *n. Gimcrack;* any old thing. "Let's take the *dewdad* a moment." Conn., Ill.

fair off, v. phr. To clear off:—used of the weather. Vt.

infare, n. A sort of reception or dinner of some pretensions. "We had an infare for him yesterday." S. Ohio.

pullery, n. A kind of skin-treating establishment. Minn.

salt rising bread. A kind of fine-grained bread. Ill.

spread, n. Jam or sauce that can be spread on bread, etc. "Put some *spread* on for me." Pa.

trailer, n. One who goes up in church in response to the call for penitents to come up and testify. "There were a good many *trailers* at the last service." N. Y.

trailers' row. The front row in church; mourners' row. N. Y.

F. Sturgis Allen.

MATERIAL TO BE ASSIGNED.

(Subjects suggested for theses.)

Authors: G. W. Cable, Alcee Fortier, W. D. Howells, T. N. Page, J. W. Riley, Mark Twain, M. E. Wilkins (Freeman). A fuller list may be obtained from the Secretary.

Bibliography: Writers containing marked dialect, classified according to locality, with critical remarks as to accuracy.

California: The Forty-niners.

Creole survivals.

Diffusion: the effects of the theatre, vagrants, commerce, the newspaper.

Districts: Rhode Island, New Jersey, Western Maryland, Mississippi.

French settlements: Northern New York, Kaskaskia, Illinois, St. Genevieve in Southeastern Missouri.

German influence: Iowa, Minnesota, Texas, the Dunkards in Virginia.

Indian influence: Oklahoma, Western inland states.

Irish and Scottish influence.

Migration: New England in the West; Pennsylvanian settlements in the West.

Negro developments: Southern plantations; the Chesapeake Bay.

Newspapers: Examination of early files; current columns in dialect.

Occupations: Coal mines, lumber terms in northern Michigan, transportation on the canals, on the Mississippi.

Territorial peculiarities: Alaska, Hawaii, Panama, Porto Rico, the Philippines.

Vermont: Robinson's *Uncle Lisha's Shop.*

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

WESTERN RESERVE TERMS (IV, vi).

The Editor of DIALECT NOTES:

Sir:—As the number of the *Notes* (IV, vi) containing my word-list from the Western Reserve failed to reach me, I did not notice till long afterward in our library copy that my article had been wrongly entitled "Phonology of the Western Reserve." This title attributes to the word-list a little too much of the character of a *ridiculus mus*. The proper title is "Word-list from the Western Reserve." The title "Phonology of the Western Reserve" is that of a promist article, collections for which are still in progress, and which will, I hope, appear in a later number of the *Notes*.

I take this opportunity to make some corrections in the word-list from the Western Reserve.

Under *blasphemy:* for (f·imi, -f·imәs), read (-f·îmi, -f·îmәs).
" *different:* bracket "General (and in pl. difrns)" as editors comment.
" *druther:* for (draór) read (drʊór).
" *fence-balk:* for (fenbɔok) read (fentsbɔk).
" *God:* for *god* read *gɔd*.
" *hello:* for h·el:ô^{v} read (h·əl: ô^{u}).
" *hear to:* for (hiərtû) read (h·iər tû).
" *sassparilla:* for *sarsfər·ilə* read *sarsfər·ilə*.
" *shaff:* for (ʃeef) and (ʃevz) read (ʃæf) and (ʃævz).
" *shillalah:* for (ʃil·èli) read (ʃil·êli). Do the Irish pronounce this ʃil·êlə rather than ʃil·êli? Mr. John McCormack so sings it in spite of the rime *daily*.
Under *syrup:* for (sërap) read (sërəp).
" *town:* for *town-hall* read *town hall*. *Town-house* has front stress, *town hall* end-stress.
Under *where'bouts:* for *hwæərəb·auts* read *hwæərəb·auts*.

Referring to Mr. Brodeur's comments on my word-list (Notes V, ii. 76), let me say that I did not intend to suggest the origin of *Come in*, but only to state the mental association that existed locally as a fact. It may have been a wrong association.

Mr. Brodeur's remark concerning *highth*, "Clearly by analogy with *width, breadth, length*," does not seem quite so certain to

me. If *width* corresponds to *wide* and *breadth* to *broad*, why should not high produce *hai* instead of *haitþþ?* It seems easier to suppose that the (t) of *highth* resulted from association with the (t) of the existing *height* than that it arose by association with a (d) or a (k) sound.

My comment on *Thank-you-ma'am* was not sufficiently clear. The meaning "hole" should have been explained as a special application of the term, which has the same usual sense as in New England,—a hump in the road that causes a bounce.

JOHN S. KENYON.

Hiram College.

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DIALECT NOTES.
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INTENTIONAL MISPRONUNCIATIONS IN THE CENTRAL WEST.

The curious manipulation or perversion of a word is a staple recourse for those wishing to contribute to the entertainment of others. Shakespeare exhibits many instances of the securing of humorous effects through the mutilation of words by some of his comic characters. Hortensio's *pedascule* in *The Taming of the Shrew* (III, i, 50) sounds like a blend of *pedant* and *schoolmaster,* and the Clown's "impetticos thy gratillity" in *Twelfth Night* (II, 111) was thought by Dr. Johnson to be a mutilation of "impeticoats thy gratuity." The "linguistic stunts" placed by Sheridan in the mouth of Mrs. Malaprop need not be recalled, nor those of Smollett's Winifred Jenkins, Shillaber's Mrs. Partington, Hood's Mrs. Ramsbotham, or, in our own day, of Wallace Irwin's Japanese School Boy, Ring W. Lardner's Al St. John, or Nina Wilcox Putnam's Marie LaTour. On the modern vaudeville stage, unexpected mispronunciations may nearly always be relied on to produce a laugh, and certain of these which "take" are given currency through many states of the union. But vaudevillians have no monopoly of the present-day practice of intentional mispronunciation. It is to be heard from nearly anybody. It is surprising how many people find zest in departing from standard or conventional speech. The current *grotesqueries* of language are worth noting, not only because of their linguistic interest but because they have a certain social significance. Mispronunciations are a permanent human phenomenon, and as such they deserve a passing record.

The following examples of intentional mispronunciation come from the central Western region, but many of them are doubtless characteristic of the whole country. The majority are derived from the usage of students. Some were heard from the mouths of grade and high school teachers and a few from instructors and professors. Mispronunciations are easily originated, and one

might expect a list of those having present currency to extend itself indefinitely; but the number is more limited than might be supposed. People catch them from one another. It seems not often to occur to them to invent their own.

An attempt—possibly unprofitable—has been made to classify the mispronunciations recorded.

I. Change of Position of the Accent.

Students and others often make these words oxytones:—

favor'ite (ai)	fati'gued	A'prile (ai)
genu'ine (ai)	merin'gue	ani'mule or
pictures'que	magnifi'que	ani'mile (ai)
cham'peen	guar'deen	

The oxytone pronunciation of *massacre* as *massa'cree* is usually not jocular but dialectal. This is also often true of *genu'ine*, *cham'peen* for *champion*, and *guar'deen* for *guardian*.

In the following words the accent is occasionally shifted to the penult:—

the'ayter	muni'cipal	posi'tively
ad'miral	nu'isance	re'cipe
super'fluous	ridi'culous	capa'city
com'petent	re'cognize	Ca'dillac
lu'dicrous		

The accent is placed on the second syllable in *se've(e)r(i)al*, *moun'tain(e)ous*. The pronunciations, *me'diev(i)al* and *evi'dently*, are usually dialectal, not jocular, and this is frequently true of *posi'tively*, *muni'cipal*, and other words listed in the same group. The occasional *cha'racter* and *mis'chiev(i)ous* perhaps reflect older usage. According to Joyce[1] the accent is still on the second syllable of these words in Irish English, as it was in the standard language of Shakespeare's day. "The dif'ficulties and the excel'lences of a man's cha'racter are never known till it has lain in his se'pulcre" is a sentence once heard.

In the following examples, the accent is sometimes made initial, with jocular intention:—

'develop	'developement	'pek-yular (peculiar)

Students often make the accent processive, to give the words a jocular turn, in *po'litician*, *'supremacy*, and recessive, for the same reason in *voca'bulary*, *in'ventory*.

[1] Joyce, P. W., *English as We Speak It in Ireland*. London, 1910.

II. Vowel and Consonant Changes.

In the following words the accent retains its normal position but there is manipulation or perversion of a vowel:—

oxcuse	stummick	agin (against)
oxplain	sot (set)	discivver
Sattin (Satan)	vodvil	divil, or dayvil
moddom (madame)	influenzo	kivver to kivver
turrible	vera purta (very pretty)	(cover to cover)

Vowel lengthening or protraction appears in:—

laff and laff (laugh)	'clee-ver (clever)	camm (calm)
or lawf and lawf	'fie-ckle (fickle)	bammy (balmy)
pie-cott edge (picot edge)		

In all these words the vowel is much protracted. Compare also some of the words listed under VI ("Stretch-Forms"). In *mebbe* for *may be,* there is vowel shortening which is sometimes intentional and sometimes dialectal.

Vowel insertion, sometimes jocular, sometimes dialectal, appears in:—

ellum (elm)	umberella	fullag (flag)
fillum (film)	girrul (girl)	Henery (Henry)
countery (country)	schooul (school)	

Consonant perversion is less frequent. Some examples are the following:—

ca'pakity (capacity)	'didgest ("The Literary 'Didgest")
cro'tchetting (crocheting)	Belgiums (Belgians)

In *hevings* for *heavens, butting* for *button,* and *seving* for *seven,* there is substitution of back for dental *n*. *Hevings* is heard only when the word is used as an interjection. There is consonant insertion as well as vowel change in *vilyan* for *villain, monupuly, simular, insiduous, scurrulous,* etc.

Here might be grouped also phrases like "A morceau by Skubbert," "a sonata by Beet-oven," " a nocturne by Choppin," a "fudge by Batch," etc. Intentional mispronunciations of this type are too many for it to be profitable to attempt to record them.

III. Syncopations or Contractions.

Examples of forms showing intentional syncopation or reduction are:—

nemmind (nevermind)	pome (poem)	forty-'leven
lil' (little)	'sides (besides)	n (and) "n all the folks"
p'fesser (profɛssor)	k'mere (come here)	n (than) "better'n I"
vurr' (very)		

The use of clipped forms for jocular effect deserves and has had separate treatment.[2]

IV. Blends.

A very frequent source of jocular mispronunciation arises when a syllable is transformed, for the sake of punning, by the addition or substitution of a consonant:—

hellophone	yellocution	slanguage
doltage	snecret	scollage
vexasperatıcn	stuffocate	gasphyxiate
democrazy		

Two consonants are added in *screwmatics* for *rheumatics* and *susancide* for *suicide.*

A more drastic change appears when a word is transformed into a conscious blend[3] in a folk-etymologizing way:—

sweatspiration	quincedence	babsoused
animule, -mile	figitated	jococious
oatsmobile (horse)	sculptuary	bumbersoll
bumberell	bumbershoot	absotively
posolutely	absodamlutely	solemncholy
cruical	immatistical	compushity
disbandoned		

V. Syllable Inversion.

In the following forms, the humorous effect is produced by consonant transposition or syllable inversion.[4]

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[2] Wittman, Elisabeth, *Clipped Words: A Study of Back-Formations and Curtailments in Present-Day English. Dialect Notes,* IV, 115.

[3] L. Pound, *Blends: Their Relation to English Word-Formation.* Heidelberg, 1914.

[4] *Dialect Notes,* IV, 51, 166, 303.

tancata	ossifer	ke'pulyar (peculiar)
hopperclod	hoppergrass	peckerwood
sideburns	pickernicks	pillarcat
flutterby	fatisaction	fatisactory
napperkids	lapajac (Japalac)	

There are both consonant transposition and consonant addition in:—

quincequontly smokolotive

Sometimes the transposition of consonants appears initially in contiguous words:—

sen-tent store	what a coangular singulance
sin twisters	the whole fam damily
in a mel of a hess	in a fell of a hix

VI. "Stretch-forms."

The following may be classed as "stretch-forms" of various types.[5] There is protraction of the initial syllable in:—

ab-solutely	dee-lighted	i-dea
dee-tails	dee-fects	ree-fined
ex-actly		

and in the expression sometimes heard for emphasis, "That is e-nough." Insertion of a middle syllable appears in:—

idi-(go)jot	spo'(no)rty	re(com)'member
disre(com)'member	scrum'(bo)tious	con'fis(ti)cate

Here belong also, perhaps, the protracted:—

leetle (little)	chee-ild (child)	be-'youtiful
yeyus (yes)		

The spelling out of an initial consonant is often heard, especially from students:—

p-neumonia	k-nit	g-nat
p-neumatic	k-nife	g-naw
k-nee		

It is this process which has given us the word *teetotallers* from *T-total,* spelled out for emphasis.

[5] *Ibid.,* IV, 52, 166.

VII. Processive Syllable Division.

Wrong syllable division is sometimes relied upon as a humorous device, as in—

a ninfidel	a numbrella	a napple
a nintimate friend	a-tall (''not a-tall'')	n-neverything
who-i-nell		

VIII. Mispronunciation of Foreign Phrases.

The jocular mispronunciation in a folk-etymologizing way of words and phrases from the French, as ''fox paws'' or ''folks pass,'' ''three beans,'' ''Jenny's pa,'' or ''Jenny sass pass,'' or for *au revoir* ''olive oil,'' ''o revolver,'' ''o reservoir,'' ''o river,'' has been given treatment by me in a separate paper published last year.

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COLLEGE SLANG WORDS AND PHRASES FROM BRYN MAWR COLLEGE.

My observation of college slang words and phrases at Bryn Mawr, of which the present article is the result, began in 1915 and except for two years' absence has continued until the spring of 1922. From it, I wish, first, to formulate certain laws, which seem to govern Bryn Mawr slang, and which may with appropriate modifications apply to college slang in general; and secondly, to list, perhaps not exhaustively, but with some fulness, certain current slang terms. Some of these terms are ephemeral; others seem fairly well fixed at Bryn Mawr; still others are undoubtedly current among the undergraduates of all American colleges, to say nothing of non-academic persons, young and old.

It is my belief that in colleges—certainly at Bryn Mawr College—the following general principles govern the spread of slang:

1. The process of a word's becoming accepted into current slang seems to be as follows: (a) First, an expression becomes current among a few students in close association, generally table-mates or residents of the same hall. (b) Then it spreads to limited use in other groups. (c) Finally, it either dies out or becomes generally current. Illustrations of this process in Bryn Mawr slang are (a) *boat-house* (see **showcase**); (b) *babies' eyeballs* (preserved cherries, pale yellow in color; also tapioca pudding); (c) any of the other expressions listed below. The illustrations of (a) and (b) are not included in the lists because neither is in general use.

2. College slang seems to come into being in the following way: (a) Certain undergraduates by one means or another acquire among their fellows a reputation as wits, though frequently in a society of older persons such a reputation would not be gained on the same or similar grounds. (b) These college wits often employ or import satirical or bizarre expressions, some of which are taken up by friends or admiring emulators and become current according to the process outlined under 1, above. A similar process may be observed outside college walls in the spread of terms originated in sports (a *hit*) or by sporting

reporters (the *Babe*), "columnists" (the word *columnist* itself), or experts in bizarre language used in stories or articles, of whom Mr. Ring W. Lardner is probably the best example (*jelly bean*).

3. Certain established college institutions give rise to local slang, which can be current at other colleges only when the same or similar institutions exist. (*roofing, model; muggle*)

4. Extra-academic current slang is much less quickly taken up in a women's college which is small and somewhat isolated socially than it is at men's colleges, co-educational colleges, or larger universities.

5. The practice of forming nicknames by clipping, the least imaginative process in slang, is widely used in colleges. The use of a nickname is not a measure of popularity.

In the lists which follow expressions marked with an asterisk are current at Bryn Mawr College in the meanings given by Bolwell as current at Western Reserve University and by Long as current at one time at Harvard, except as noted under each entry (*Dialect Notes*, Vol. IV, Pt. iii, pp. 231, ff., 1915).

A.—GENERAL TERMS.

baby, a. Elementary, beginners'. See the illustration under *daily prep.*

berries, quite the, a. phr. signifying approval; beyond reproach, *comme il faut.* "You look quite the berries in that new neckpiece of yours." (Probably an importation, not yet generally current.)

bird, n. (1) an extraordinary person, a "high flyer." "She's some bird." (2) One who has a crush upon another. (Current about 1905-1907; now obs.)

*bluff.**

bone,* v. i.

brunch, n. A meal which combines the functions of breakfast and lunch, especially on Sundays. "I'm nearly starved; I didn't have anything but a little brunch." (Used only occasionally. Compare the "portmanteau words" *brillig, slithy* of *Jabberwocky*, and the process of forming the word *starvation.*)

Bryn-Mawrter, n. A woman who has been connected with Bryn Mawr College as an undergraduate. (Not heard as applying to those who have had graduate instruction at the college.) "She's an old Bryn-Mawrter—graduated in 1918."

Chloroplasts. The, n. Name of an eating club. Other clubs of the same sort are known as "The Skinnies," "The Guzzle-ums," "The Tapes," a clipped form of *Tapeworms.*

clubby, a. See *intime.*

*come through,** v. phr. (The meaning is partly specialized into "barely to pass.")

cow, n. Condensed milk. "Got any cow? We're making muggle-up in Susie A's."

crab, 1. * n. An unsociable person. 2. v. i. To complain. "Oh quit crabbing about that F; I'm sick of it!" (v. t., *crab* in the sense of to "confuse," to "ball up," as in "Here, give me the cards; you've crabbed the deal," though used in Philadelphia, is not known at Bryn Mawr.)

crack a book, v. phr. To study diligently. "I haven't cracked a book this semester."

cram, Webster's N. Int. D. 3.

*crib,** v. and n.

*crush,** n. (The meaning is not extended to a verb-formation, as in "Have you noticed how Helen is crushing Fan lately?" but if the verb were used thus, it would be recognized.)

cuckoo, a. (1) Undistinguished, not quite up to the standard socially, "ordinary." "She won't get my vote for president; she's what I call a bit cuckoo." (By extension from the meaning "eccentric," "queer.") (2) n. A term of endearment. "Why, you darling cuckoo, of course not."

*cut.**

dim-wit, n. A person of small common sense; a stupid person. "She's the worst dim-wit on campus."

do, v. To take part in physical exercise under the direction of. "Do you do Branson?"

dope out, v. phr. To master a lesson or assignment by concentrated mental effort. "I doped that all out myself! Nancy didn't help me a bit."

drop quiz, n. phv. A quiz given by an instructor without previous announcement. "G. G. gave a drop quiz to-day. I know I flunked it." (Compare *spring a quiz.** The more usual v. phr. is *to drop a quiz.*)

dumb-bell, n. A stupid person. "She's an awful dumb-bell."

dumb-bunny, n. A somewhat stupid person, whose stupidity is not so great as that of a *nit-wit,* q. v. *Dumb-bunny* implies a shade of endearment or toleration. "My dear, you are the preshest old dumb-bunny!" (Said to be a corruption of *dumb-bell.*)

fair, for fair, cf. *fare thee well.**

fire-balls, n. Medicinal pills dispensed at the 1905 Infirmary. (Not heard in the singular.) "She gave Frank some fire-balls, and she'll be all right in a day or two."

fish, n.* (A "squish" is not heard.)

fish-eggs, n. Tapioca or sago pudding. "Seems to me we get nothing but fish-eggs for dessert lately."

*get.**

get down cold, n. phv. To learn thoroughly. "I've got those notes down cold."

hoot, n. An absurdly funny person, thing, or occurrence. "My dear, she's such a hoot!"

intime, a. French *intime,* friendly. Mary is certainly getting *intime* with Jane.'' (also spelled *antime.*) See *inty.*

jazz. (1) n. Present-day syncopated dance music. ''Just listen to that jazz.'' (2) n. Animation. animal good spirits. ''She's just full of jazz.'' (3) v. i. To dance latter-day steps. ''Let's jazz a bit; the music's pretty good.'' (*Encyc. Brit.,* 12th ed., s. v. ''Dancing,'' would indicate that this sense is an importation from England, and perhaps also from France.) (4) v. t. To agitate violently and irregularly. ''She jazzed the muggle a little.'' (Probably not general.) (5) v. phr. to jazz around, to go a great deal to parties. ''You mustn't expect to pass your quizzes if you keep jazzing around like this.''

jazzy, a. Animated, full of life. ''She's the jazziest girl in Pem East.''

junker, (dzʉnkër) n. One who collects junk, or cast-off clothing or other objects for the C. A., q. v. ''They rang me in as a junker this year—takes a lot of time.''

Lantern Night, n. phv. An undergraduate ceremony held in the autumn.

makins (*mēkins*), n., plu. only. The ingredients for muggle, q. v. (Compare the use of the same word to mean the ingredients for a hand-rolled cigarette.)

mausoleum, n. See *showcase,* specifically of Rockefeller Hall.

model, n. A child-pupil of the Model School. ''Her kid cousin's a model.''

moron, n. A very stupid person. ''A dim-wit! Why, she's positively a moron.''

muggle, n. A drink made of instantaneous cocoa, or chocolate, condensed milk, and water, in varying proportions according to taste. ''I know I'm heavier than I was—too much muggle, I guess.''

muggle-party, n. An informal social gathering at which muggle is brewed and drunk. ''We're going to stage a muggle-party to-night.''

nit-wit, n. See *dim-wit.*

off sports, a. phr., applied to a student whose physical condition does not permit her to engage in athletic sports, and whose name therefore is not on the lists of those who are to participate. ''Why Nillie's off sports! She's just out of the pest-house.''

on campus, adv. phr. (1) Specifically, on the grounds which technically, according to the students' *Self-Government Handbook,* comprise the limits of the Self-Government Association's authority in certain matters. ''Of course, you dumb-bell, the Inn is on campus.'' To be put on campus is to be confined for purposes of discipline to those limits. *Ant.,* ''off campus.'' (2) At college. ''I haven't spent a week-end on campus this semester.''

*oodles,** but not as an adjective.

out for, a. phr. 1.* The expression *out for hockey* would mean ''Competing to achieve membership in an organized team, or to become a member of a more expert team.'' 2. In the process of angrily and actively searching for someone. ''I'm out for Jane for what she said about me in class meeting.''

*nut** 1, and 2. (Compare *dim-wit, dumb-bunny, moron.*)

Paoli, n. A train, generally electric, running from Philadelphia to Paoli, Pennsylvania, and stopping at Bryn Mawr. The official designation of such a train is "Paoli Local." "We came out on the 5.20 Paoli."

pest-house, n. (1) The contagious ward of the 1905 Infirmary; the 1905 Infirmary. (2) Top floor of one of the halls of residence which upon occasion is converted into a convalescent hospital; used by members of that particular hall in this specialized sense. "She's coming out day after to-morrow; she's in the pest-house now."

Pike, n. Lancaster Avenue, the old Lancaster Turnpike. (In use throughout Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, but at Bryn Mawr College applied to a certain portion of the thoroughfare, usually the commercial portion, and the adjacent part of the town.) "Come on, walk over to the Pike with me." Compare *vil.*)

roof, v. To indulge in a substitute for required gymnasium practice by lying in the sunshine on the roof of the College Gymnasium. Only those who are off sports may roof. "Been roofing yet this spring?"

show-case, n. The reception room in a hall of residence, in which residents of the hall entertains their friends, especially their suitors, q. v.; so called because of the unobstructed view of the interior from without. "She was sitting in the showcase with her Harry."

snap course, n. phr. A series of lectures or course of instruction in which it is supposedly easy to attain a high rating, or in which very little work is required. "Oh, that's a snap course."

snooty, a. Proud, arrogant; assuming. "Well, I don't think a high credit in that course is anything to get snooty over."

*spring a quiz,** v. phv. See *drop a quiz.*

squirrel food, n. phv. A stupid or foolish person, a "nut." Not heard. *Food for squirrels* is a current expression. "I'd call anybody that did that food for squirrels."

suitor, n. A young male friend, not necessarily with matrimonial intentions; any male caller, related or not. "*Did* you see her suitor? He looks pretty young to me."

swain, n. See *suitor.*

the, def. art. prefix to names of professors to give the effect of a nickname: "The Kingsbury," "The Carpenter." (Compare a similar use at Oxford University, England, especially in the women's colleges, and Somerville in particular, where "The Pen" is the Lady Principal, Miss Penrose, "The Darb," Miss Derbyshire, etc. This use has spread in England to certain girls' schools; for instance, the Godolphin School, Salisbury. At Birmingham University, the head of the Women's Hostel would be thus identified, but probably the teachers would not. Compare the title for the head of the Scottish Clan MacLeod, the French use of the definite article with proper names, as in *La Bernhardt,* etc.)

tomb, n. A bathroom with a solid wooden door which is not provided with a light of glass. (Local in Rockefeller Hall.) "The tomb's locked. Somebody must be tubbing."

trot, (1) n. A supposedly literal translation used in preparing lessons in

languages, more usually in ancient languages. "Give me the trot quick! I got to do some Horace." (2) v. i. To use such a translation in a course. "I don't trot in Horace." (3) v. phr., *to trot out,* to prepare a lesson by means of a trot.

tub, v. i. To bathe, to take a bath. "She tubbed so long that she fell asleep and dropped the book in the water."

young, a. (1) An intensive, in use similar to *old* in this sense (e. g., "Well, I'm just going to put on an old slicker and beat it." [A. E. F., 1919] V. s. v. *old,* N. E. D., 1. 6; Web. N. Int. D., 1909, 7.) "We had a young quiz to-day in Ec." "There's a young game of bridge up in Cal's" (The article is always used.) (2) Small, diminutive, brief. "There was a young riot at class meeting to-day."

B.—CLIPPED FORMS.

app (1) n. Apparatus practice in the gymnasium. "I hate app; wish I could sign up for folk-dancing." (2) *v. i.,* To exercise by practicing upon gymnasium apparatus. "I couldn't go to the meeting; had to app, drat it!"

bi (*bai*) n. biology. Compare chem,* psych, lab,* philos (never "phil"), and *app.*

C. A. Lib, n. (1) A collection of books, the property of the Christian Association. (2) The room in which that collection is kept. (Compare *lib,* 1.)

celeb (*seleb*), n. A college celebrity. "She gets a crush on every celeb she meets at a tea."

Christian Ass, n. phr. (1) The Christian Association of Bryn Mawr College. (2) A member of a committee of the Christian Association. "She's a Christian Ass."

comp, n. English composition. "Meg's a shark in comp; she gets high credit all the time."

cut rep, n. phv. Cut representative, a member of a college class who represents its interests in committees dealing with absences of undergraduates from academic appointments. "Well, you'd better see your cut rep if you've cut that much."

daily prep, (1) n. Daily preparation of lessons. (2) a. Requiring daily preparation. "Baby Greek is a daily prep course."

evens, (1) n. The "even" classes; those classes in college whose class numerals are even, e. g., 1922, 1924. (2) Members of even classes. (Compare *odds.*)

final, n. (Bryn Mawr usage follows Harvard usage, except that *the hours* are lacking.)

*grad,** Compare *undergrad.*

gym, in the sense, n.,* of *gymnasium* only.

hall rep, n. phv. Hall representative, a member of a college class who represents its interest in a hall of residence, makes announcements concerning it during meals, etc. "Why don't you get your hall rep to announce it?"

Inf, n. Infirmary; specifically, the 1905 Infirmary. "I only got out of the Inf yesterday afternoon."

inty, a. See *intime.*

*lab.**

Lib (*lib*, not *l ib*) (1) n. The college library building. "I saw her going to the Lib for books." (2) v. To study in the college library. (Rare) "I've been libbing all afternoon." (Pronunciation indicates a graphic origin.)

libwards, adv. Toward the College Library; in the direction of the College Library. (Compare *lib.*)

*lit,** in the sense of *literature* only. "I had her in lit."

*math,** in the sense of *mathematics* only.

non-res, (1) n. A student who does not live in a hall of residence. "She's a non-res this year." (2) a. Belonging to non-resident students. "The Non-Res Room."

odds, n. (1) The "odd" classes; those classes in college whose class numerals are odd, e. g., 1923, 1925. (2) Members of the odd classes. "The odds are certainly strong at jumping."

Pem, n. Pembroke Hall. Compare *Rock for Rockefeller Hall, Pem East, Pem West,* etc. There is no clipped form for *Taylor Hall.*

*pep.**

pipe, n. A "lead-pipe cinch;" that which is easy. "The quiz was a pipe."

*prelim.**

*prep.**

presh, a. or voc. A term of endearment, from *precious.* "O presh, did you see that letter for you in the hall?"

See the example under *dumb-bunny.*

punc, n. Punctuation, a subject in the old matriculation requirements "I had a condition in punc freshman year, but I passed it off."

Sally-Cat, n. A course of instruction in Sallust and Catullus. "Sorry I can't stop. Got to go to Sally-Cat." (Transitory.)

*simp.**

*trig.**

typ (*tip*), n. Typical college girl; sometimes also used in referring to a "grind." The term is said to have been imported from a preparatory school and to be used mostly by its graduates. "I think Hilda's much more of a tip than Jerry."

undergrad, n. (1) The Undergraduate Association. "And if you are tempted to go to the Ritz with a suitor, Undergrad steps in and says you mustn't." (2) An undergraduate. "Are you sure she's an undergrad? I thought she graduated in 1920."

vil, n. The commercial quarter of the town of Bryn Mawr. The village of Bryn Mawr. "I got a cone over in the vil to-day." (Compare Fr. *ville,* and *pike.*)

C.—TRANSFERRED EPITHETS

Bryn Mawr students frequently refer to courses of study by the names of instructors or by their nicknames; e. g., English Diction is "Samuel Arthur," History of Art is "G. G." or "Geegee," General English Literature is "Donnelly," History is "David," "Billy," or "Gray" or "the Grayhound," Politics is "Fenny," Biblical Literature may be "Barty." This practice is probably in part occasioned by the fact that the courses in college are not numbered, and that the official designation is often long and somewhat unwieldy for purposes of conversation

D.—ABBREVIATIONS

B. M. C., n. abbreviation of *Bryn Mawr College*. *B. M.* is used to indicate members of college teams, probably induced by the letters sewed to the clothing of members of college teams. "She's a B. M." would mean, "She's on the college team." Compare *U.**)

C. A., n. The Christian Association, which plays an unusually important part in undergraduate life. (Compare *Christian Ass.*) "Going to the C. A. meeting?" *C. A.* is probably a clipped abbreviation of *Y. W. C. A.* (Compare *Y.**)

C. A. girl, n. An upper-class member of the Christian Association who stands guide, philosopher, and friend, to a new-comer, especially a freshman; also the freshman so assisted. "Don't ask me. Ask your C. A. girl."

N. F. C., n. A fictitious society of girls who have *No Fur Coats*. "You bet I'm an N. F. C.; I'm poor this winter." (Probably in one of the stages of becoming general.

P. T., n. A nickname of endearment for President Thomas. The initials signed to circulation cards for library books drawn by the president are said to be the source of this nickname. The form *Pete* (*pît*) is drawn from the initials.

ADDENDUM.

FLAPPER-FILOLOGY—THE NEW LANGUAGE

(Reprinted from *The Evening Bulletin*—Philadelphia, Wednesday, March 8, 1922.)

Scene—A flapper's home at 1 A. M. Up-to-date member of the younger generation returning from evening out, having left her "boy friend" at or near the door. Meets mother.

Mother—"Well, dear, did you have a good time?"

Flapper—"Hot dog! It was the cat's pajamas. Started perfectly blaah, though. Joe brought a strike-breaker, some tomato he turned sub-chaser for,

'cause his regular jane had given him the air. Jack had a flat-wheeler along who was a cellar-smeller. He got jammed.

"We struck a jazz-garden where a bunch of bun-dusters were necking it. Some wallie tried to horn in on our gang and we bloused. We crashed the gate at a swell joint like some finale-hoppers. We scandled till one of the boys got beautifully shellacked, so we took the air."

Boffos—dollars, otherwise known as rocks, chips, seeds, berries and jack.

Bell polisher—a young man addicted to lingering in the vestibule at 1 A. M.

Blaah!—anything that's no good or is "out."

Blouse—to leave, to beat it, to take the air, to blow, as "Let's blouse."

Blow—depart.

Bun duster—a small salaried male person who frequents teas and other entertainments and never makes any effort to repay his social obligations. Otherwise a cake eater.

The cat's pajamas!—anything that's very good.

Cellar smeller—a young man who always turns up where liquor is to be had without cost.

Crashing the gate—to go to a place uninvited or without paying admission.

Crasher—anyone who goes to parties uninvited.

Darbs—usually used with the definite article, i. e., "The Darbs," a person with money who can be relied upon to pay the checks.

Drag—pull.

Dumbdora—a stupid girl.

Dumb-otig—a young man from the country sometimes referred to as merely "otig."

Egg—a hard-boiled cake-eater who lets a jane pay her own way into a dance hall.

Egg Harbor—a dance hall where no admission is charged.

Finagler—one who stalls until someone else pays the check.

Finale hoppers—Persons who make a business of appearing late at dances after the ticket takers have gone.

Flat-wheeler—a young man whose idea of entertaining a girl is to take her for a walk.

Given the air—when a fellow or girl is thrown down on a date.

Goof—a sap, a guy, a fish.

Goofy—to be in love with or attached to, i. e., "I'm goofy about Jack."

Grease ball—a foreign cake-eater or bun duster.

High hatty—conceited, aloof, exclusive.

Holaholy—a girl or boy who objects to "parking" or "necking" in a dance.

Horn in—to get into a place without an invitation.

Hot dog!—a joyous expression of approval.

Jammed—intoxicated, also shot, shellacked, canned, out like a light, potted, tanked, cuckooed, etc., etc., etc.

Jane—a girl.

Jazz garden—a cafe where dancing is permitted.

Lollygagger—a young man addicted to attempts at hallway spooning.

Mad money—money a girl carries in case she has a row with her escort and wishes to go home alone.

Monog—a young person of either sex who is "goofy" about only one person at a time.

Necking—dancing with cheeks together, also known as "parking."

Not so good!—exclamation of dissatisfaction.

Princess Mary—any girl who is soon to be married. (Obsolete now.)

Rug shaking—shimmying.

Scandal—a college boy or girl so called from their manner of walking, also the name of a dance step.

Shellacked—stewed, bunned, etc.

Smudger—one who does all the close-fitting dance steps.

Squirrel—to hide, e. g., a girl squirrels money in her stocking.

Subchaser—a man who tries to pick up girls on the street.

Strike breaker—a girl put in to take the place of a young man's regular girl when the latter is away.

Tomato—a pretty girl who can dance like a streak, but is otherwise a "dumbdora."

Take the air—to get out or to be put out.

Up stage—to get indignant.

Wallie—a goof with patent-leather hair.

Wind sucker—any person given to boasting.

Wrinkle—the girl's mother.

HOWARD J. SAVAGE.

Bryn Mawr, Pa.

METAPHOR AND SIMILE IN AMERICAN FOLK-SPEECH.

Introduction.

I.

Range and Abundance.

The range in figurative language in folk-speech seems boundless. Every profession, every trade, every sport has its own set of figures to explain qualities which could not be expressed as well in any other way. The baseball man "fans out," the man in the glass factory makes a "necktie bottle," the man in the oil wells uses an "alligator-wrench," cuts through "clover-seed sand" and sometimes digs a "wild cat well." The politician "pulls his wires," the hunter works "like a beaver," the sailor "steers clear" of certain people, the farmer finds a man to be "small potatoes and few in the hill," while the college student uses a "'pony" or an "aeroplane" for his translation to escape getting a "goose egg" for his grade. The child plays "London Bridge is falling down" and the little boy "skins the cat" on the horizontal bar. The metaphor may be expressed by a noun as illustrated above, or suggested by an adverb, "sorely perplexed," or "painfully expressed"; by an adjective, "Her feelings are ruffled"; by a verb, "She crammed for the examination"; by a pronoun, "She's a fine car"; or by a verb phrase, "He's been barking up the wrong tree." The simile is usually expressed by a phrase, as "slippery as an eel," or "acts like a chicken with its head cut off."

The sources from which these figures are drawn are equally wide ranging. One great source is the Natural Kingdom. Animals, reptiles, insects, and birds furnish a large opportunity for comparison. The "bull" typifies awkwardness, the "mule" stubbornness and the "beaver" industry. The "snake in the grass" represents the deceitful person; the "butterfly," the gay, trifling person; the "big bug," the person of importance; the "loon" the crazy man and the "peacock," the proud man. Turning to the vegetable kingdom we find "as tight as the bark on the tree" to illustrate stinginess, "sour grapes" for envious disappointment and "small potatoes" for an insignificant person. We find a few drawn from metals and the elements

such as "true as steel" and "like chain lightning." The other great source of imagery lies in Human Life. Some are drawn from the human body, as "to escape by the skin of your teeth" and "as sore as a boil"; others from human actions, as "easy as rolling off a log." But more find their source in domestic life, "handy as a pocket in a shirt," and "soft soap" for flattery; or from food and the appetite, "flat as a pancake," and "apple pie order." The occupations and sports of Man furnish another source. Illustrations are, "busier than a cranberry merchant," "hard row to hoe," "straight as a die," or, "he thought he was the whole shooting match." The supernatural is also used in violent or emphatic figures, "hot as hammered hell," and "busy as the devil in a gale of wind." This variation in the sources is abundantly illustrated in the classification of figures at the close.

II.

Striving for the Vigorous and Emphatic.

The effort to be emphatic and striking often leads to some very novel figures. Illustrative instances are, "baby skull" for apple dumpling, "charcoal blossom" for young negress, "fish scale" for five cent piece, and "sunfisher" for balking horse that paws the air. The same effort to intensify gives rise to such varied expressions as: "busy as a bee," "busy as an old hen with two chickens," "busy as a cranberry merchant," "busy as forty bees in a tar bucket," "busier than in hog killing time," "busy as the devil in a gale of wind": or, "mad as hops," "mad as a hatter," "mad as a hornet," "mad as a March hare," "mad as a wet hen," "mad enough to eat needles," "mad enough to bite a tenpenny nail in two." These last two examples well show the constant struggle for emphasis leading sometimes to violent figures, as; "like hell beating tanbark," "six feet and seven axe handles tall," "like a greased streak of lightning," and "ugly as a mud fence stuck with tadpoles." Many negative expressions may be cited where the figure is added simply for emphasis: "don't know B from bull's foot," "don't know beans when the bag's open," "don't know split beans from coffee," "wouldn't know him from Adam's house cat," "I didn't know him from a bundle of brooms," "wouldn't know enough to pound sand in a rat-hole."

Often a trite expression is intensified by additions and the figure prolonged. Thus, "like a ton of bricks" becomes, "like a thousand bricks on a rotten pumpkin"; "it rained pitchforks" becomes, "it rained pitchforks and darning needles" or "pitchforks and hammer handles," or "pitchforks with sawlogs for handles." The longest metaphor found is one of this nature used to describe a person who desires altogether too much. "He wants the earth and the moon with two spans of barb-wire fence around it and whitewash the fence." The same tendency to extension for emphasis was noted by Miss Warnock when examining terms of eulogy.[1]

III.

Tendency towards the Jocular.

Among tendencies that appear in comparing a large number of figures is the inclination towards the jocular. Much humor and wit are reflected in the metaphorical language of folk-speech and the desire to be facetious seems to be responsible for many of them. Examples are: "Irish nightingale" for bull frog, "crimson rambler" for bed bug, "balloon juice" for empty, noisy talk, and "cackle-berry" for egg. The man mentally weak or stupid is described variously: "He has an upper story to let," or "has bats in his belfry," or "is a sap head." The "bug-eyed" person with "spider legs" makes a humorous picture while the person full of self importance is described as "the whole team and little dog under the waggin." "Some punkins" seems to be a jocular term for a person of consequence as, "I understand that Abraham was some punkins in his day."

IV.

Tendency towards Disparagement.

Another persistent tendency in folk-speech is a liking for disparaging terms.[2] There are many expressions describing human qualities such as "dead as a door nail," "crazy as a

[1] Terms of Approbation and Eulogy in American Dialect. *Dialect Notes* IV, p. 13.

[2] Compare Miss Hayden's Terms of Disparagement in American Folk-Speech. *Dialect Notes* IV, 194.

loon,'' ''mad as a wet hen,'' ''drunk as a coot,'' ''cross as a bear,'' ''homely enough to sour milk,'' ''ugly as a mud fence,'' ''thin as a rail,'' ''proud as a peacock,'' ''polite as a basket of chips,'' and all these have many variations. But all of these similes imply disparagement. Among the metaphors we find a similar list; ''pill,'' ''stick-in-the-mud,'' ''small potatoes,'' ''lemon,'' ''prune,'' ''bore,'' ''skunk,'' and so on. When we come to look for corresponding similes of eulogy we find comparatively few: ''pretty as a spotted pony,'' ''true as steel,'' ''good as gold,'' ''neat as a pin,'' ''pleased as a box of monkeys,'' ''bright as a dollar,'' ''sharp as tacks,'' ''smart as a whip.'' This list besides being shorter lacks the emphasis, the vividness, we might say the enthusiasm, of the list of disparaging terms.

V.

Some Illustrative Origins.

The majority of the figures in the alphabetical list which follows are of American origin and are easily understood. ''Bury the hatchet'' for peace, ''dig up the tomahawk'' for war, ''paddle your own canoe,'' and ''they won't get my scalp,'' are drawn from our early associations with the Indians; while such comparisons as ''hard row of stumps,'' ''crooked as a rail fence,'' ''to pull up stakes,'' point to pioneer life. But the meaning of some has become obscure because they arose under certain conditions or in particular localities both of which are changed now. It is interesting to note the origin of some of these figures and see how much of the original meaning still remains.

The common expression, ''He takes the cake'' originated in a darky festival known as a cakewalk in which a cake was placed in the center of the room and the contestants promenaded around it. The couple that put on the most style won the cake.[1] It now applies to excelling in anything whether a prize is awarded or not. The familiar expression, ''That's a feather in your cap,'' has been explained as a reference to the general custom in Asia and among the American Indians of adding a new feather to their headgear for every enemy slain.[2] ''Corduroy road'' is a

[1] *Dialect Notes*, Vol. I, p. 60.

[2] Rev. E. C. Brewer, *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable.*

term applied to roads in the backwoods and swampy districts of the United States which are generally made of halves of trees laid across the track. When the road is not filled in with dirt it presents a ribbed appearance similar to corduroy cloth.[1] The expression, "go to Halifax" has been explained as a survival from Revolutionary times and meant originally, "You are a Tory, go where you belong."[2] "Bulldose" or "bulldoze" is said to have originated in Louisiana after the Civil War with the Union Rights League (negro) whose enthusiasm of the suffrage question led them to form oath-bound societies. If a negro was found who voted the Democratic ticket he was first warned, then flogged and if these milder measures were ineffective, was supposed to be shot.[3] The bulldose meant the flogging with cowhide—a dose of cowhide. It has come to be used as a verb meaning to intimidate by violent means. "Wildcat," used of banking institutions of unsound character, comes from a bank in Michigan which had a large vignette on its notes representing a panther or wild cat. This bank, under the loose banking laws before the Civil War, failed. Its notes were afterwards called wildcat money and the bank the Wildcat bank. Six other banks were compelled to stop payment soon after because of lack of confidence and the term became general.[4]

VI.

Importations from the Old World.

Many of our familiar metaphorical expressions originated in the Old World and have come to America by immigration. The saying is understood even if the original meaning is unknown. The phrase by "hook or crook" is said by Brewer to derive its origin from the custom of certain manors where tenants were authorized to take fire-bote by hook or crook. This meant to take as much of the underwood as might be cut with a crook and as much loose timber as might be collected from the bough by means of a hook[5]. The one who does the disagreeable work for

[1] Bartlett, *Dictionary of Americanisms* 1889.
[2] *Dialect Notes*, Vol. I, p. 382.
[3] Bartlett, *Dictionary of Americanisms* 1889.
[4] Bartlett, *Dictionary of Americanisms* 1889.
[5] Brewer, *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable.*

others is often called the "cat's paw." This figure probably came from the fable of the monkey that wanted to get from the fire some roasted chestnuts and took the cat's paw to get them from the hot ashes.[1] "To grin like a Cheshire cat," has been explained by one author as referring to the custom in Cheshire of moulding cheese into the shape of a grinning cat.[1] The figure "to let the cat out of the bag" is said to originate in a trick among country folk. They would sometimes substitute a cat for a sucking pig in a bag and bring it to market. Whoever let the cat out of the bag disclosed the trick.[2] There are also many Biblical references to be found in a collection of figures, such as: "under the juniper tree"; "meek as Moses"; "to throw up Jonah"; "the last button on Jacob's coat"; "as poor as Job's turkey."

VII.

Folk Proverbs and Children's Games.

Folk proverbs could well be included in a figurative collection. The following have come to my notice: "Don't count your chickens before they are hatched." "Don't cry over spilt milk." "Little pitchers have big ears." "Fine feathers do not make fine birds." "Stick to your text if you die preaching." "There are more ways to kill a dog than choking him with butter." "The longest pole gets the persimmon." "The early bird catches the worm." "You can't squeeze blood out of a turnip." "You never miss the water till the well runs dry." "You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink." "You might as well die for an old sheep as a lamb." "Too many cooks spoil the broth." "When it rains porridge my dish is always upside down."

There is another group of metaphors which the list below does not include—that is, the names of children's games: "Run sheep, run"; "Pussy wants a corner"; "Here we come gathering nuts (or knots) of May"; "London bridge is falling down"; "Wolf over the river"; "Skin the cat"; "Let the old cat die"; "Hare and hound"; Fox and dogs"; "Fox and goose"; "Frog in the middle"; "Upset the fruit basket"; "Duck on a rock";

[1] Brewer, *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable.*

[2] Brewer, *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable.*

"Cat and mouse"; "Dog and cat"; "Bring home what you borrowed"; "Sheep pole down"; "Pig in the parlor"; "Prisoner's base"; "Blind man's buff"; "Bill Brown's big black hog"; "Ring round the rosy"; "Shoot the buffalo," "Snap the whip."

METAPHOR AND SIMILE IN AMERICAN FOLK-SPEECH.

accomodatin' as a hog on ice, adj. phr. Extremely disagreeable or unobliging. Rural Maine, New Hampshire.

acknowledge the corn, v. phr. To admit one is at fault or is outdone, acknowledge that one is the originator or doer of something harmful to himself. Sometimes, "acknowledge the coin" is heard. Alabama.

act like a cat in a gale of wind, v. phr. To move unusually briskly. Maine.

Adam's (house) cat, n. phr. Used in negative expressions such as, "He wouldn't know me from Adam's house-cat." Alabama.

Adam's off ox, n. phr. Negative expression. "He wouldn't know me from Adam's off ox." Indiana.

aeroplane, n. Interlinear translation. College slang. Indiana.

alligator-wrench, n. A wrench with jaws shaped like those of an alligator. Oil wells.

all wool and a yard wide, adj. phr. All right; firstclass. Indiana, Alabama, Virginia, Nebraska.

always behind like an old cow's tail, adv. phr. Always late. "You're always behind like an old cow's tail." New Hampshire, Indiana.

always around like a picked up dinner, adj. phr. Easily at hand. Maine.

animal, n. Literal translation used in preparing lessons. College Words and Phrases.

apple-pie, adj. Excellent, perfect. "The house is all cleaned and in apple-pie order." New York, Indiana.

ashy, adj. Angry. "He got awful ashy." Illinois, Missouri.

as long as John Brown stayed in heaven, adv. phr. No time at all. Rural Maine and New Hampshire.

baby-skull, n. Apple dumpling. College Words and Phrases.

backed off the boards, v. phr. To be beaten, to be surpassed. "This radiator's got the one in my apartment backed off the boards." Lincoln Daily News.

bald as a billiard ball, adj. phr. Entirely bare. Arkansas, Connecticut.

ball-up, v. To confuse or become confused. It probably comes from the "balling up" of a horse in soft, new fallen snow, when a snowball forms within each shoe, making the horse's footing insecure and movement awkward. College Words and Phrases.

balloon-juice, n. Empty, noisy talk. College Words and Phrases.

band-wagon, n. "Come off the band wagon," i. e., stop being fresh. New York.

bark up the wrong tree, v. phr. To misdirect one's energies. "You are barking up the wrong tree when you try to get his influence." Arkansas, Indiana, Alabama.

bat, n. A spree. A foolish good time. College Words and Phrases.

beak, n. Nose. General.

bean, n. Head. "I'll knock your bean off." Montana.

beat the cars, to, v. phr. To the skies, highly. "He is boosting that country to beat the cars." Arkansas.

beat the devil around a bush (stump), v. phr. To approach a subject in a roundabout way. Alabama.

bee-line, n. Straightest course. Connecticut, Alabama, Nebraska.

before one can say Jack Robinson, adv. phr. Very quickly. "He got out of the way before you could say Jack Robinson." Alabama. *Quicker than you can say Jack Robinson.* Arkansas, Connecticut.

berry, n. Anything easy or soft. College Words and Phrases.

between hay and grass, adv. phr. Between manhood and boyhood. Connecticut.

bicycle, n. Literal translation used in preparing lessons. College Words and Phrases.

big as all outdoors, adj. phr. Very large. "She has a mouth as big as all outdoors." New Hampshire, Arkansas, Alabama, New York.

big as a meeting house, adj. phr. Said of one who feels his importance. "He feels as big as a meeting house." New Hampshire.

big as a pint of cider, adj. phr. Small. "He wa'n't no bigger 'n a pint of cider." New Hampshire.

big bug, n. A person of importance. "The biggest bug of the crowd." New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, General.

bigger than a barn, adj. phr. Huge. Maine

bird, n. 1. A girl. 2. A person extremely accomplished (often ironical). 3. A sport. College Words and Phrases.

bird's nest, n. A fruit pudding. New York.

black as the hinges of hell, adj. phr. Very black. Indiana.

blazes, n. In the expression, "like blazes," i. e., furiously. Connecticut, Arkansas, New York.

bleed like a stuck hog or pig, v. phr. To bleed profusely. Arkansas, Indiana.

blind calf, n. To impose on one. "He couldn't run a blind calf over me." Missouri.

blind pig, n. Saloon without a license. Pennsylvania, North Dakota.

blind tiger or tiger, n. Illicit saloon. "It looks like there are no blind-tigers here." Arkansas, Nebraska.

blow great guns, v. phr. To blow a gale. Cape Cod.

blow one's head and horns off, v. phr. To talk too much. "He blowed his head and horns off." Arkansas.

blue back of the gills, adv. phr. Low spirited. "Some of the farmers who have not got their corn in are feeling just a little blue back of the gills." Arkansas.

blue-stocking, n. A masculine college girl devoted to study. College Words and Phrases.

bluer'n a whetstone, adj. phr. Extremely dejected. Rural Maine, New Hampshire, Nebraska.

bone, v. To study diligently. (Probably from "bone" an allusion to knuckle—knuckle down.) College Words and Phrases.

bones, n. "Cold bones," dollars. New York.

boot-leg, v. To carry on one's person and sell illicitly. "Charged with bootlegging whiskey." Arkansas, Wisconsin, Nebraska.

boot-lick, n. or v. One who tries to curry favor. College Words and Phrases.

bore, n. An uninteresting subject or course of instruction. College Words and Phrases.

born under a dark cloud, v. phr. Always in hard luck or in bad shape. Maine.

bounce, n. and v. To be expelled, sent from class-room, suspended. ("Get the grand bounce.") College Words and Phrases.

box with five little nails in it, n. phr. A blow with the hand. Indiana.

breed of dogs, n. phr. Family. "He belongs to a different breed of dogs." Arkansas,

brick in his hat, n. phr. Applied to an intoxicated person, meaning "he is top heavy." "He's got a brick in his hat."

bright as a button, adj. phr. Very bright. Aroostook, Maine.

bright as a (new) dollar, adj. phr. Very bright, quick witted. "That boy's bright as a dollar." New Hampshire, New York, Maine, Arkansas.

brought up in a saw-mill, adj. phr. Applied to a person who forgets to close the door in cold weather, since the older type of saw-mill had no doors. Western New York, New Hampshire.

buckwheat batter, n. Blue slate 1,830 feet down. Language of the Oil Wells.

bug-eyed, adj. Used in expression, "He's a a bug-eyed individual." Nebraska.

bug-house, adj. Wrong, crack-brained. "You're bug-house there, sonny." Arkansas.

bug under the chip, phr. Implies concealment. Kansas.

bulldoze, v. Intimidate by violent means. General.

bull-tongue, n. A kind of plough, so called on account of its shape. Missouri.

bun, n. "That takes the bun." New York. (Variant of "takes the cake.") Farmer.

bundle of brooms, n. phr. Used in negative expressions. "I did not know him from a bundle of brooms." I did not know him even by sight. Similarly "bag of meal," "basket of chips." New York.

bury the hatchet, v. phr. Peace. Montana. Or *bury the tomahawk.*

busier than a cranberry merchant, adj. phr. Exceedingly busy. Nebraska, Arkansas.

busier than in hog-killing time, adj. phr. Exceedingly busy. Arkansas.

busy as an old hen with two chickens, adj. phr. Very busy. Indiana.

busy as a bee, adj. phr. Very busy. General.

busy as forty bees in a tar-bucket, adj. phr. Very busy. Alabama.

busy as the devil in a gale of wind, adj. phr. Full of business.

butterfingered, adj. A person whose powers of retaining an article in his grasp are not great. New Jersey.

butterfly, n. A gay, irresponsible person. "Marrying a butterfly." Lincoln Daily News. May 16, 1916.

buttermilk sand, n. phr. Sandstone, 414 feet down. Oil Wells.

butter would melt in one's mouth, as if, adv. phr. Used in expression, "He looks as if butter would melt in his mouth." i. e., very agreeable and pleasant. Nebraska.

button, n. Fresh fellow. "What a button he is!" Texas.

button-hole, v. To monopolize one's attention and company. College Words and Phrases.

cackle berry, n. phr. Egg. "Pass the cackle berries." College Words and Phrases. Kansas.

cake, n. "Take the cake." To be the best. Ohio, Nebraska.

cane, n. Retirement, privacy, inactivity. "Come out of the cane and go to work." Arkansas.

cannonball, n. A fast through train. "The happy couple left on the cannonball for St. Louis." Arkansas.

can't tell his head from a hole in the ground, v. phr. Cannot discriminate with any degree of sharpness. "When we get him on the witness-stand we'll question him till he can't tell his head from a hole in the ground." Indiana.

carloads, n. pl. A great deal, large quantity. "He's got carloads of money." Arkansas.

carry a bone, v. phr. Pack a tale about. Indiana.

cart wheel, n. "To turn a cart wheel," to turn a handspring on one hand. Massachusetts, New York, Ohio.

cart wheel, n. Silver dollar. Illinois, New York.

catch a weasel asleep, v. phr. To take a shrewd person off his guard. Connecticut.

cat's paw, n. The one who does the disagreeable work for another.

charcoal blossom, n. A young negress. College Words and Phrases.

chaw of tobacco, n. phr. Exhausted, spiritless. "He wasn't worth a chaw of tobacco when he came back." Nebraska.

chaw one's tobacco twice, v. phr. To repeat a remark. "I don't chaw my tobacco twice." Arkansas.

chimney, n. A person much addicted to smoking. College Words and Phrases.

cheese, n. "That don't cut any cheese." i. e., that has no weight. New York, Nebraska.

chocolate rocks, n. phr. Red shale. (Oil Wells.)

chowder-head, n. A stupid person. Cape Cod.

cinch, n. Something obtained or done without difficulty. College Words and Phrases.

cinch, v. To make sure of anything. College Words and Phrases.

clapper, n. The mouth; used in iron factories. "Shut your clapper."

claybank, adj. Yellow or cream colored, applied to horses. Missouri.

clean shave, n. Passing examinations in every subject. College Words and Phrases.

clean shirt in a dog-fight, as long as a, adv. cl. A short time only. "Japan wouldn't last as long as a clean shirt in a dog-fight." Jonesboro Daily Times-Enterprize. Arkansas.

clinker, n. A biscuit. College Words and Phrases.

close shave, n. Narrow escape. College Words and Phrases.

cloud up for a sneeze, v. phr. Appearance of face before sneezing. Nebraska.

clover seed sand, n. Sandstone 1,660 feet down. Oil Wells.

cocoanut or coco, n. Head. "Crack one's cocoanut." Cape Cod, Indiana, Montana, Arkansas, Nebraska.

coffin-dodger, n. A person much addicted to cigarette smoking. College Words and Phrases.

coffin-nail or coffin-tack, n. A cigarette. College Words and Phrases.

cold as blixum (or blixes), adj. phr. Very cold. Arkansas, Alabama; *blixen,* Nebraska.

cold as snakes, adj. phr. Very cold. Arkansas.

cold feet, n. Weariness; lack of interest. New York, Nebraska.

come off your perch, v. phr. Don't try to deceive me. "O come off your perch; I don't believe it." New Hampshire, New York, Indiana.

come with one's horns down, v. phr. To come as if ready for a contest. "John is coming over here next week, and he's coming with his horns down too." Indiana.

cool as a cucumber, adj. phr. Very calm. "He was as cool as a cucumber." Nebraska, Wisconsin.

coon's age, n. phr. A long time. "I ain't seed him for a coon's age." Indiana, Nebraska.

coonskin with tail thrown in, adv. phr. An expression used facetiously in speaking of underestimating distance. "He must have measured it with a coonskin with tail thrown in." Missouri.

copperhead, n. A poisonous serpent whose bite is considered as deadly as that of the rattlesnake. A term applied early in the civil war to Northern sympathizers with the Confederates; a disloyal person. Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 145.

corduroy road, n. A road or causeway constructed with logs laid together over swamps or marshy places. Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 146.

cork-headed, adj. Cocky, conceited. College Words and Phrases.

corker, n. 1. Anybody or anything that is all right. 2. An unanswerable fact or argument. College Words and Phrases.

corn-cob and lightning bug, a, n. phr. A harmless weapon. "I could take a corn-cob and lightning bug and run him out of town." Cf. Stick with a bug on the end of it. Arkansas.

cottonmouth, n. A kind of moccasin snake. Northwest Arkansas.

cotton-top, n. A white-haired man. College Words and Phrases.

cough up, v. To produce, as of money. "He coughed up forty dollars for us before we left him." New York, Michigan, Indiana, Nebraska.

cow, n. Milk pitcher. College Words and Phrases.

cowhorn turnip, n. phr. A long bow-shaped turnip. Arkansas.

cowlick, n. A tuft of hair on the head that will not lie flat. Nebraska, Alabama, Cape Cod.

crab, v. To borrow continually. College Words and Phrases.

cram, n. 1. One who does much extra study before an examination. 2. A course requiring hard study. College Words and Phrases.

cram, v. To attempt to store mind with facts before an examination. College Words and Phrases.

crawfish, v. To back out of a trade, proposition, etc. Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Arkansas, Nebraska.

crazy as a bat, adj. phr. "She says he's crazy as a bat." Arkansas, Alabama, Nebraska.

crazy as a bedbug, adj. phr. Very crazy, silly, foolish, etc. Cape Cod, Arkansas, Alabama, Indiana, Nebraska.

crazy as a coon, adj. phr. Insane. New York.

crazy as a loon, adj. phr. Insane. Arkansas, New York, Nebraska.

crimson rambler, n. phr. Bed-bug. "At that hotel they have beds of crimson ramblers." Arkansas.

crooked as a dog's hind leg, adj. phr. Very crooked. Missouri.

crooked as a rail fence, adj. phr. Very dishonest. Indiana.

crooked as a ram's horn, adj. phr. Very crooked. Alabama.

crooked stick, n. phr. A dishonest person. Connecticut, Arkansas.

cross as a badger, adj. phr. Very ill-tempered. Maine.

cross as a bear with a sore head, or *cross as an old bear,* adj. phr. Extremely irritable. Arkansas, Indiana, Alabama, Nebraska.

crow-feet, n. Part of hand-hole plates for boilers. Oil Wells.

cut a big dash, v. phr. Make a great display. "When Christmas comes we'll cut a big dash." Alabama, Connecticut.

cut a big (or wide) swath, v. phr. To make a great display. New Hampshire, Indiana.

cut a big hog in the mouth with a small knife, v. phr. To attempt something beyond one's capacity. Indiana.

cut a pigeon wing, v. phr. To dance with graceful sweeps. Indiana.

cut one off short as pie crust, v. phr. To speak sharply. "When I went to the office he cut me off short as pie crust." Indiana.

cut the mustard, v. phr. To succeed. "But he couldn't cut the mustard." Arkansas.

cut up shines, or monkey-shines, v. phr. Play tricks. Arkansas, Connecticut, Nebraska.

dead as a doornail, adj. phr. Entirely dead. New Hampshire, Alabama, New York, Nebraska.

dead as a door post, adj. phr. Perfectly dead. Arkansas.

dead as hay, adj. phr. Lifeless. Rural Maine and New Hampshire.

deaf as a door post, adj. phr. Exceedingly deaf. Alabama, Nebraska.

devil's darning-needle, n. Dragon fly. Connecticut.

dig, n. 1. A slap or punch. 2. One who studies hard. 3. Cutting remark at the expense of another. College Words and Phrases.

dig, v. To study constantly. College Words and Phrases.

dig up the tomahawk, v. phr. War. Montana. Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 710.

dingbat, n. Muffin or bun. College Words and Phrases.

dog's age, n. phr. A long time. "I haven't seen you in a dog's age." Arkansas, Missouri, Maine.

donkey, n. Small steam pump used on the pipe-line. Oil Wells.

don't amount to a hill of beans, n. phr. Very little. New Hampshire, Alabama.

dough, n. "She has lots of dough" (money). Nebraska.

dough-head, n. A thick-headed person. Cape Cod, Connecticut.

down at, or to, the heel, adj. phr. Sick, in hard luck, etc. Used in the mountains of Oregon. "Bill is feeling a little down in the bushes today."

drew in one's horns, v. phr. To retire, leave off boasting. (Habit of snail). Alabama, Indiana.

dragged through a knot-hole, adj. phr. Exhausted, worn out. "He looks as though he'd been dragged through a knot-hole." New Hampshire, Nebraska.

drive nails in a snow bank, v. phr. Used with negative in contempt of a poor driver. Arizona.

drop one's candy, v. phr. To make a big blunder, do something to cause the failure of a plan. Probably the prose originated at the candy-pullings which were often held out of doors. Alabama.

drunk as a biled owl, adj. phr. Very drunk. Arkansas.

drunk as a coot (er), adj. phr. Very drunk. Alabama.

drunk as a fiddler's bitch, adj. phr. Extremely drunk. East Alabama.

dry as a bone, adj. phr. Very dry. Alabama, Nebraska.

dry-goods, n. A woman. College Words and Phrases.

duck, n. A queer fellow. College Words and Phrases.

duck-egg, n. Cipher in game (cricket). College Words and Phrases.

duck-fit, n. Fit of excitement, impatience or uneasiness. Alabama, Indiana, Arkansas.

dumb as a deep sea oyster, adj. phr. Very stupid. Indiana.

dyed in the wool, adj. phr. Thoroughly bad. Connecticut.

Dutch oven, n. phr. "A mouth as big as a Dutch oven." Cape Cod.

easy as an old shoe, adj. phr. Very comfortable. General.

easy as rolling off a log, as, adj. phr. Extremely easy. General.

enough to put in tea, n. phr. Used in negative phrase. "I don't know enough to put in tea." i. e., Very ignorant or stupid. New York.

excited ez a cat at a mouse-show, adj. phr. Highly excited. Rural Maine and New Hampshire.

eyes peeled, phr. "To keep one's eyes peeled," to be on the alert. Arkansas, Connecticut, Nebraska.

face as big as a pewter platter, n. phr. Large, round face. Cape Cod, Arkansas.

face the music, v. phr. To receive blame courageously. Connecticut, Arkansas, Nebraska.

fall apart or fall down, v. phr. 1. Flunk or fail in recitation. College Words and Phrases.

fall on the ball, v. phr. To commence studying. (From game of football.) College Words and Phrases.

fan-out, v. To strike out in baseball. General.

fantail, n. Stern paddle wheel. Western Rivers.

feather one's nest, v. phr. Make good profit. Arkansas, Connecticut.

feel his oats, v. phr. Be conceited. Indiana, New York. "He feels his corn." Kentucky.

feel like a boiled owl, v. phr. To be nervously exhausted, as from loss of sleep. New Hampshire.

fence, n. In the expression 'to be on the fence,' to be neutral. Connecticut, Nebraska.

fiddle, n. "To be drunk as a fiddle," to be very drunk. Ohio.

fifth calf, n. Anything supernumerary. Same as fifth wheel. New England.

fine as a fiddle, adj. phr. Extremely fine. Alabama

fire, v. To expel or order from a classroom. College Words and Phrases.

fine as a frog-hair, adj. phr. Extremely fine. Arkansas.

fine as split silk, adj. phr. Very fine. Arkansas.

fire into the wrong flock, v. phr. To be mistaken. Connecticut.

fire-insurance agent, n. phr. A preacher. College Words and Phrases.

fish, n. 1. A Freshman. 2. A person easily fooled. College Words and Phrases.

fish and potato face, n. phr. An uncomplimentary epithet. Cape Cod.

fit to kill, adv. phr. Terribly; excessively. "He laughed fit to kill (himself)." Indiana, Arkansas, Alabama.

flat as a flitter, adj. phr. Prostrate, headlong. "He fell flat as a flitter." Flitter means fritter. Indiana.

flat as a flounder, adj. phr. Very flat. Alabama.

flat as a pancake, adj. phr. Very flat, of persons or things. Connecticut, Arkansas, Maine, New York, Nebraska.

flat-footed, adv. Bluntly. "I told him (right out) flat-footed what I thought about it." Connecticut, Arkansas, Nebraska.

fly off at a tangent, v. phr. To fly into a passion. Connecticut.

fly off the handle, v. phr. To become angry, lose control of one's temper. "When Jim said that, Harry just flew off the handle." Connecticut, Arkansas, Alabama, Indiana.

fly the coop, v. phr. To leave suddenly. "He has flew the coop." Missouri, Indiana, Arkansas.

fly-up-the-creek, adj. phr. Foolish; light minded. "She is a fly-up-the-creek sort of girl." Missouri, Arkansas.

foxy, adj. 1. Sly. 2. Bright. 3. Well dressed. College Words and Phrases.

freeze, v. To do easily. To appropriate. College Words and Phrases.

frog-skin, n. A greenback or piece of paper money. Virginia.

frog-sticker, n. Facetious for pocket-knife. Arkansas.

frost, v. Surprise. "Wouldn't that frost you?" Minnesota.

fruit, n. A person easily influenced. College Words and Phrases.

fryin' size, n. Half-grown (of girls). "Now I wish that you girls back there, fryin' size misses on the back seat, would keep still long enough for me to bring some words of light to this dying congregation." Arkansas.

full as a fiddle, adj. phr. Intoxicated. Northwest Arkansas.

full as a goat, adj. phr. Very drunk. Alabama, Arkansas.

full as a tick, adj. phr. Very full, sometimes used of intoxication. Arkansas, Alabama.

funnel it down, v. phr. To use intoxicants to excess. "He don't drink; he funnels it down." Arkansas.

gadfly, n. Professor who makes students work by witty remarks at their expense. College Words and Phrases.

geranium, n. 1. One who has attractive qualities. 2. Anything easy to do. College Words and Phrases.

get down to brass tacks, v. phr. Get at principle involved. "Let's not waste time; let's get down to brass tacks." Indiana, Nebraska.

get it by the tail and a down-hill pull on it, v. phr. To accomplish easily. "Can I do it? Why, I've got it by the tail and a down-hill pull on it." Arkansas.

get one's back up, v. phr. Become enraged. Connecticut.

get one's goat, v. phr. Get the best of one. Northwestern States, Nebraska. Lincoln Daily News, April 12, 1916.

get the wrong bull by the horns, v. phr. To be defeated by a person whom one has expected to defeat; to attack the wrong person. "He got the wrong bull by the horns when he tackled us." Arkansas.

get the wrong pig by the tail, v. phr. Be mistaken. Connecticut.

get to leeward, v. phr. To run behind. "I've run to leeward this year." Cape Cod.

get took down a peg, v. phr. To be humiliated, disappointed. Rural New Hampshire.

get to windward, v. phr. To gain an advantage over. "You can't get to windward of him." Cape Cod.

get up on your ear, v. phr. To get violently angry. "Now there ain't no use to get up on your ear about it." New England, Arkansas, Nebraska.

give a wide berth, v. phr. Keep away. "You want to give them sort of folks a wide berth." Cape Cod, Alabama.

give 'em the axe, v. phr. 1. Shut up, give us a rest. Maine. 2. To subdue or overcome as in college yell. "Give 'em the axe, the axe, the axe. Where? Right in the neck, the neck, the neck. There." Deane College, Nebraska.

give the calf more rope, imper. Keep still. Montana.

gnat's bristle, gnat's ear, n. phr. A fine point. "He's got things down to a gnat's bristle." Arkansas.

gnat's heel, gnat's toe-nail, n. phr. Anything very small. "It fitted to a gnat's toe-nail," i. e., perfectly. Alabama, Missouri, Indiana.

goat, n. Two-wheeled wagon used to carry pot to furnace where first tempered. Glass industry. New Jersey.

go by the board, v. phr. Be lost or sacrificed. Cape Cod, Alabama.

go like a bat through hell, v. phr. To move swiftly or wildly. "When I saw him he was going like a bat through hell." Indiana.

gone coon, n. phr. A man past recovery. "He is a gone coon." Sometimes *gone goose.* Connecticut, Alabama, Arkansas.

gone goose, n. phr. A man past recovery. Connecticut.

gone goslin. n. phr. Doomed. "He's a gone goslin." Arkansas, Alabama.

good as gold, adj. phr. Excellent. Arkansas and Connecticut.

go off half-cocked, v. phr. To speak prematurely or without deliberation, to do something before one should or is ready.

go on with one's knitting, v. phr. To proceed with one's narration or work. Arkansas.

go on with one's rat-killing, v. phr. To proceed. Alabama.

gooseberry, n. The third person who makes "a crowd." Pacific slope.

goose-egg, n. Zero, as in marks. College Words and Phrases.

goose hangs high, the, n. phr. Everything is in fine order. Alabama.

goose-neck, n. A form of condenser. Oil Wells.

goose that lays the golden eggs, n. phr. Originator of prosperity. "We want to consciously build up our city, and the goose that lays the golden egg must not be killed or even disheartened." Lincoln State Journal. Nebraska.

go through the mill, v. phr. To acquire experience. Connecticut, Nebraska. Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 703.

go to grass, imper. To be off! Get out! Stop talking! "Oh you go to grass, I don't believe a word you say." Connecticut, Arkansas, Alabama, New York, Nebraska.

go to hell in a wheelbarrow, v. phr. To become a moral wreck through the influence of someone else. "He's runnin' with Josh Sanders; goin' to hell in a wheelbarrow." Indiana.

gourd, dry as a, adj. phr. Thirsty. Missouri.

go up the spout, v. phr. To die, to be beyond recovery. Alabama, New York.

graceful as a bird they call the ox, adj. phr. Very awkward. "She's as graceful as the bird they call the ox," Nebraska.

greased streak of lightning, n. phr. In the phrase, "like a greased streak of lightning," i. e., with extreme rapidity of motion. Alabama, Indiana.

grease the wheels, v. phr. To pay a little on account. Connecticut.

grease through, v. phr. To be passed by getting higher grade than deserved. College Words and Phrases.

great gawking gander, n. phr. A gawky person. Cape Cod.

gridiron, n. Foot-ball field. College Words and Phrases.

grind, v. or n. Devote unreasonable amount of time to study. College Words and Phrases.

grind one's own bait, v. phr. A figure taken from fishermen's language. To do as one pleases. "It's a tight squeeze to weather that point but after that we can grind our own bait." Maine.

grin like a Cheshire cat, to, v. phr. To grin broadly. Arkansas, Connecticut. To grin like a *Chesy* cat. Maine, Nebraska.

ground-hog case, n. An extreme case. Alabama.

half way between the devil and a red pig, adv. phr. In a dangerous situation. Maine.

Halifax, go to, imper. Go where you belong. New Jersey, New Hampshire.

hair (n)or hide, n. phr. Sign Used in negative expressions. "I haven't seen hair nor hide of it." Alabama, Nebraska.

hammer-headed, adj. "Just see that hammer-headed horse." Arkansas.

handy as a pocket in a shirt, adj. phr. Cape Cod, New York, Nebraska.

hand in one's checks, v. phr. To die. Indiana.

happy as a clam at high tide, } adj. phr. Very happy. New Hampshire,
happy as a clam in the mud, } Connecticut.

happy as ducks in Arizona, adj. phr. Very unhappy. Arizona.

happy as a lark, adj. phr. Very happy. Nebraska.

hard boiled hat, n. phr. A derby hat. Arkansas.

hard nut, n. Hard case. Alabama, Nebraska.

hard row of stumps, adj. phr. In trouble, in a bad way. "He's been in a hard row of stumps since both of his barns burned." Indiana, Arkansas, Alabama, Kentucky, Virginia.

hard row to hoe, n. phr. A difficult matter to accomplish. Arkansas, Connecticut, New York.

hat, n. "Talk through one's hat," to talk nonsense. Massachusetts, New York, Michigan, Nebraska.

hatchet-face, n. A person with long, narrow face. Cape Cod. *Hatchet-faced,* adj. Indiana.

have bats in one's belfry, v. phr. To be insane. Indiana.

have one's tail over the line, v. phr. To act stubbornly. "I couldn't do anything with Charley this morning, he had his tail over the line about something." Indiana.

have one where the hair is short, v. phr. To have one at a disadvantage. "As soon as he saw that I had him where the hair was short, he walked away." Indiana.

have wheels in one's head, to, v. phr. One who is peculiar or slightly insane. New York, Ohio, Nebraska.

hayseeder, n. An unsophisticated countryman. Maine.

head up and tail over the dashboard, adj. phr. In a lively, spirited manner. "Ever since election day he has been going around with his head up and tail over the dashboard." Indiana.

heart as big as an ox, n. phr. A generous heart. Maine.

hell on stilts, like, adv. phr. Very rapidly. Arkansas.

hell cat, n. One who pesters or annoys. "That kid's a regular hell cat." Indiana.

hen, n. A woman student. College Words and Phrases.

hen-coop, hen-house, hennery, n. Young women's dormitory. "The hen coop's just full up with girls." Arkansas.

hen headed, adj. Brainless. Indiana.

high as a cat's back, adj. phr. Very high priced. "Yes apples are high as a cat's back." Arkansas, Indiana.

high as a kite, adv. phr. Equivalent to sky high. Connecticut, Arkansas.

high collared rooster, n. phr. Well dressed gentleman. "We don't want no high-collared roosters to represent us in the legislature." Arkansas.

high-heeled shoes, n. Pride. Connecticut.

high-horse, n. "He is on a high horse"—prosperous, elated. Virginia, Alabama.

hit a balloon, v. phr. To hit anything with accuracy. Used only in speaking of one's marksmanship. "He couldn't hit a balloon." Indiana.

hit the hay, v. phr. To go to bed. (Slang) Indiana.

hit the high places, v. phr. Go very rapidly.

hoe-down, n. Rough dance. Indiana.

hoe one's row, v. phr. To do one's own work. Connecticut. Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 288.

hog, v. To get from another. College Words and Phrases.

hog, n. 1. Very poor, bad. 2. Out of money, at disadvantage. 3. Greedy.

hog-killin' time, n. phr. An enjoyable time. "We just had a hog-killing time." Arkansas, Alabama.

hold a candle to, v. phr. Be compared with. "He can't hold a candle to him." New Hampshire, New York. *Light a candle to.* Arkansas.

hold one's horses, v. phr. To be patient. Remain calm. Indiana, New Hampshire, Nebraska, New York.

hold the bag, left to, v. phr. To be left empty-handed. "My partner ran away and I was left to hold the bag." (Derived from the role of the dupe in familiar game of snipe-hunt.) Missouri, Arkansas, Alabama, Indiana.

homely as a hedge fence, adj. phr. Ill favored. Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire.

homely as a stump fence, adj. phr. Ugly or ill-favored. A fuller expression is "homely as a stump fence built in the dark." Maine.

homely enough to sour milk, homely enough to stop a train, adj. phr. Very homely. New Hampshire, Arkansas.

honey-spring and flitter tree, n. phr. An expression denoting abundance of good things. "He is going to Texas and expects to find the honey-spring and flitter tree." Flitter means fritter. Missouri.

horse, n. Literal translation used in preparing lesson. Also pony. College Words and Phrases.

horse, n. "That's a horse on him," the laugh is on him. New York.

horse back, n. Stratum of rock nineteen feet down. Oil Wells.

hoss and hoss. Means the same as neck and neck or six to half a dozen. Even. Connecticut.

hot as blixum, adj. phr. Hot as blazes. "It's hot as blixum." Northwest Arkansas.

hot as hammered hell,
hot as hammered lightning, } adj. phr. Very hot. Indiana.

hot as a mink, adj. phr. Very warm. "It is hot as a mink in this room." Maine.

hot-dog, n. 1. One very proficient in certain things. 2. A hot sausage. College Words and Phrases.

hot under the collar, adj. phr. Angry. "He got hot under the collar when I told him." Nebraska, Wisconsin.

hound's tooth, adj. phr. "Clean (slick) as a hound's tooth." New York.

hung by the eyelids, v. phr. Unfinished. Cape Cod.

hungry as a bear, adj. phr. Maine, Nebraska.

ice, n. "That don't cut any ice," i. e., that has no weight. New York, Nebraska.

ice-pitcher, n. Refused to recognize an acquaintance. College Words and Phrases.

ice wagon, n. "To be an ice wagon," to be very slow. New York, Michigan.

independent as a wood-sawyer, adj. phr. Extremely independent. Alabama.

innocent as a lamb, adj. phr. "He was as innocent as a lamb." Nebraska.

Irish nightingale, n. Bull frog. New York.

Johnny-at-the-rat-hole, to play, v. phr. To pry into other people's affairs; to eavesdrop. "He's always playing Johnny-at-the-rat-hole." Nebraska.

jug full, n. phr. In the expression "not by a jug full," not by any means. Connecticut, Alabama, New York.

jug-handle, v. To want everything one's own way in a transaction. "I was willing to do what was right in the matter, but he wanted to jug-handle me." Indiana.

jump out of a band-box, v. phr. To don very new clothes. "He looks like he'd just jumped out of a band-box." Arkansas, Nebraska, Wisconsin.

kale seed or kale, n. Money. Indiana, Nebraska.

kangaroo court, n. phr. Mock trial. "A kangaroo court's a heap of fun." Arkansas.

keel up, v. phr. To lay up, disable. "He's keeled up with rheumatis." Cape Cod.

keep a stiff upper lip, v. phr. To keep up one's courage. Connecticut, Arkansas, Nebraska, Alabama.

keep one's shirt on, v. phr. To be calm. "The thing's going to be done; so you might just as well keep your shirt on." Indiana.

kettle of fish, n. phr. Situation, bad state of affairs. "Here's a pretty kettle of fish." Cape Cod, Arkansas, Alabama.

keyed to the roof, adj. phr. Very drunk. Indiana.

kick, v. and n. To oppose, to find fault. "I have a kick coming." College Words and Phrases.

kick like a Bay State mule, v. phr. Kick very vigorously. Alabama.

kick over the traces, v. phr. To become unmanageable. "That woman is bound to kick over the traces every time she gets a chance." Hampstead, New Hampshire.

kick the bucket, v. phr. To die. Alabama, New Hampshire, New York.

kick up a dust, v. phr. Make trouble. Indiana.

kick up a row, v. phr. Create a disturbance. Connecticut, Arkansas.

kick worse than a bay steer down hill backwards, v. phr. To resist with might and main. Arkansas.

kittens, n. In phrases "get kittens," "have kittens," meaning to get angry. Also; *to have pups, to get zebras,* with same meaning. College Words and Phrases.

knee high to a grasshopper, adj. phr. "Little Johnny stood knee high to a grasshopper." Eastern Nebraska, Connecticut, Arkansas, Maine, New York.

knee high to a duck, Virginia, Arkansas, Indiana, Alabama. *To a lame duck,* Nebraska. *knee high to a June-bug,* Arkansas.

knock off the Christmas tree, v. phr. To call one down; to bring one to time. "So I just knocked him off the Christmas tree." Maine.

knock the socks or spots off, v. phr. To whip thoroughly. Illinois, New York, Arkansas. To surpass. "He could knock the spots off of anyone." Wisconsin, Indiana.

knocked into a cocked hat, adj. phr. Knocked out of shape. A man's theories may be knocked into a cocked hat. Connecticut, Arkansas.

knocking with both hands on the hammer, v. phr. Descriptive of a person who finds fault. Nebraska State Journal.

know beans when the bag's open, v. phr. Used in negative expressions to indicate ignorance. "He doesn't know beans when the bag's open, does he?" Arkansas, Indiana. "He doesn't know beans." Nebraska.

know B from bull's foot, v. phr. Used to indicate great ignorance. Always used negatively. "That fellow don't know B from bull's foot in raisin' melons." Indiana. Also "know a bull's foot from a broom-stick." New York.

know enough to pound sand into a rat-hole, v. phr. Used in negative expressions to indicate ignorance or illiteracy. "He wouldn't know enough to pound sand in a rat-hole; so don't get him." Indiana, Rural Maine, New Hampshire.

know split beans from coffee, v. phr. Negatively, to know little, to be stupid. "They don't know split beans from coffee." Arkansas.

last button on Jacob's coat, the, n. phr. The last thing. Also the last pea in the dish. East Alabama. *Last* button on Gabe's coat. Virginia.

last year's bird's nest, n. phr. "He hasn't any more sense than a last year's bird's nest," i. e., his head is as empty as a last year's bird's nest. Arkansas.

learn Hebrew, v. phr. "I sent my watch to learn Hebrew," i. e., I pawned my watch. New York.

leather-ears, *leather-head*, n. phr. A person slow of comprehension. Cape Cod.

leg-pull, n. Influence or favor with some one. "He has a leg-pull." College Words and Phrases.

let the cat out of the bag, v. phr. Disclose a secret. Alabama, Vermont, Indiana.

lemon, n. An unattractive person or thing. "She's a regular lemon." Nebraska.

lie out of whole cloth, v. phr. An utter falsehood. Connecticut.

like a bat out of hell, adv. phr. Very quickly. Arkansas, Indiana.

like a bull in a china closet, adv. phr. Awkwardly. Connecticut, Nebraska.

like a chicken (hen) on a June bug, v. phr. "He jumped on him like a chicken on a June bug." Eagerly. Alabama.

like a chicken with its head cut off, adj. phr. Like a person who has lost self-control. Connecticut, Arkansas, New York, Nebraska, Alabama.

like a dog with a sore head, adv. phr. "He's always whining like a dog with a sore head." Connecticut.

like a house afire, n. phr. Fast and furious. "Work like a house afire." Arkansas, New York.

like a hog to war, adv. phr. Sideways. "The horse went like a hog to war much of the time." Missouri.

like a knot on a log, adv. phr. Perfectly still, immovable. "He set there like a knot on a log." Arkansas.

like a radium deposit, adv. phr. Very carefully. "You know they guard those recommendations like a radium deposit." University of Nebraska.

like a stuck pig, adv. phr. Vociferously. "The poor fellow yelled like a stuck pig." New Hampshire.

like a thousand of brick on a rotten pumpkin, adj. phr. Heavily. Also, "like a ton of bricks." Arkansas, New York, Indiana.

like chain lightning, n. phr. "He's quicker than chain lightning," i. e., remarkably quick. New York, Cape Cod, New Hampshire.

like fightin(g) fire, adv. phr. With great energy, haste, force, etc. Alabama.

like fire in a stubble field, adv. phr. Immediately. "The bill was introduced and passed through the House of Representatives like fire in a stubble-field." Arkansas.

like haulin' a hog out'n a scaldin' tub, adv. phr. Comparison to denote difficulty. Rural Maine and New Hampshire.

like hell beating tanbark, adv. phr. With energy or speed. "He drove along like hell beating tanbark." Arkansas.

like killing blacksnakes, adv. phr. Very industriously. "I've been working today like killing black snakes." Arkansas.

like looking for a needle in a haystack (haymow), adv. phr. A hopeless search. Connecticut, New York, Arkansas, Nebraska.

like sawing wet elm with a rusty saw, v. phr. A very tedious job. "Next to sawing wet elm with a rusty saw, I know nothing more tedious than reading a long article by ————." Nebraska State Journal.

like the woods afire, adv. phr. Very rapidly and energetically. Alabama.

limber as a dish rag, adj. phr. Very limber, completely exhausted. Alabama, Indiana.

list, n. "He walks with a list." Cape Cod.

little end of the horn, n. phr. Same as "small end of the horn," i. e., be worsted in an enterprise. New Hampshire, Connecticut, Arkansas, Alabama, New York, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 359.

little (turkey) buzzard, n. phr. A filthy child. "You little buzzard, you." Arkansas.

live in a barn, v. phr. To be ill-mannered, uncouth or boorish. "He lives in a barn, I reckon. Arkansas.

loaded for bear, v. phr. Full of indignation likely to be vented. Well supplied with arguments. Arkansas.

look down one's nose, v. phr. Look chagrined, baffled or ashamed. "I guess he didn't succeed for he was looking down his nose." Kansas.

look forty ways for Sunday, v. phr. To look hastily in every direction. "He rushed around the corner looking forty ways for Sunday." Indiana.

look seven ways for Sunday, v. phr. To be confused. "He looked seven ways for Sunday." Nebraska, Wisconsin.

looks so to a man up a tree, v. phr. To appear thus to an unprejudiced observer. "It looks so to a man up a tree." Arkansas.

lumber, v. int. To hasten in a clumsy manner. Kentucky.

mackerel sky, n. Fleecy circus clouds. Cape Cod, Alabama.

mad as a hatter, adj. phr. Angry. New Hampshire.

mad as hops, adj. phr. Very angry. New Hampshire, Cape Cod.

mad as a hornet, adj. phr. Very angry. New Hampshire, Alabama, New York.

mad as a March hare, adj. phr. Very angry. New Hampshire.

mad as a wet hen, adj. phr. Very angry. New Hampshire, Connecticut, Arkansas, Alabama, Maine, New York.

mad enough to bite a tenpenny nail in two, adj. phr. Very angry. Arkansas, New Hampshire.

mad enough to eat needles, adj. phr. Very angry.

make a horn or spoil a spoon, v. phr. To succeed or fail. Arkansas.

make the bark fly, v. phr. To enter vigorously upon the matter in hand. "When he gets into the campaign he'll make the bark fly." Indiana, Alabama.

make the fur fly, v. phr. To enter into a transaction spiritedly. "If he becomes a candidate he'll make the fur fly." Indiana, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 380.

make up out of whole cloth, v. phr. A lie made out of whole cloth is one in which there is no admixture of truth. Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 755.

making mountains out of molehills, v. phr. Making a big thing out of a little thing. Lincoln Daily News, May 10, 1916. General.

mean enough to suck eggs, adj. phr. Low-minded, base. Used both of men and of dogs. Arkansas.

meaner than goose grease, adj. phr. Contemptibly mean. Maine.

middle of the roader, adj..phr. A straight out and out Populist, 1896.

milk of human kindness, n. phr. "But the milk of human kindness has dried in his veins." Lincoln State Journal.

mitten, n. "To get the mitten" is to be jilted. Connecticut, Arkansas, New York, Nebraska.

molly-cottontail, n. A hare. Kentucky, Alabama, Arkansas.

monkey clothes, n. phr. Dress clothes. New York.

monkey with the buzz-saw, v. phr. Negatively, don't meddle. New Hampshire, Indiana.

month of Sundays, in a, adv. phr. A long time. "I have'nt seen you in a month of Sundays." Nebraska.

more airs than a country studhorse, n. phr. Conceit. Maine.

mouth like a burnt hole in a blanket, adj. phr. An ugly mouth especially with black or missing teeth. Maine.

mush and molasses, n. Language indicating weak intellect or flabby character. "He talked mush and molasses." Arkansas.

mutton-head, n. A dull, stupid person, a bore. Alabama.

nail, v. To get it nailed," to have perfect mastery. College Words and Phrases.

nailkeg, n. A silk hat. Maine.

near as peas, adj. phr. Very near. "I come near as peas killin' myself." Alabama.

neat as a pin, adj. phr. Very neat. Maine.

neat as wax, adj. phr. Very neat. Nebraska.

neck of the woods, n. phr. Neighborhood. "Nobody lives in that neck of the woods." Indiana, Arkansas, Alabama, Nebraska.

necktie, n. Imperfect bottle, wrinkled in the neck. (Glass Industry.) New Jersey.

new wrinkle on one's horn, n. phr. New and surprising knowledge. "Well that's a new wrinkle on my horn." Indiana.

nigger-head, n. 1. A heavy navy-blue cloth. 2. Nuts resembling small chestnuts. New York.

nigger-toes, n. Brazil nuts. New York, Arkansas, Nebraska.

nigger in the woodpile, n. phr. Implies concealment. "I suspicioned there was a nigger in the woodpile when I saw them together." Missouri, Arkansas, Indiana, Nebraska, Alabama.

none of my funeral, n. phr. An affair in which one declines any responsibility. "I don't care how he does it; its none of my funeral."

not big enough to whip a cat, adj. phr. "This room's not big enough to whip a cat in." Arkansas.

not come within forty rows of apple trees, v. phr. Negative. To be very far from. "That don't come within forty rows of apple trees of being the right size." New York.

not enough to wad a gun, adj. phr. Very little. "The children hadn't enough clothes on to wad a gun." Indiana.

notch on a stick, n. phr. In the negative expression, "not worth a notch on a stick," i. e., absolutely worthless. Alabama.

nutty, adj. *nut,* n. Lacking in mental capacity, insane. College Words and Phrases. Indiana, Connecticut, Nebraska.

odd as Dick's hat band, adj. phr. Used to describe a person who is peculiar. Aroostock, Maine.

offen his box or off his box, adv. phr. Mistaken. "If he thinks he can fool me he is offen his box." Missouri.

one-horse, adj. phr. Small and unimportant. "This is a one-horse town." Connecticut, Alabama, New York.

on one's head, adv. phr. Beside one's self. "He's on his head." Arkansas, Alabama.

on one's own hook, phr. On one's own account. "He is doing business on his own hook." Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms; p. 294. New York.

on the wrong tack, adv. phr. Pursuing wrong course. Cape Cod.

on velvet, adv. phr. Employed on an easy job. College Words and Phrases.

out on the carpet, adv. phr. In society to find a wife. "You don't mean to say that old widower's out on the carpet." Arkansas. *Walk one up on the carpet.* v. phr. To arrest. Maine.

owl-eyed, adj. Intoxicated. Wise. College Words and Phrases.

pack guts to a bear or *carry guts to a bear,* v. phr. Signifying low occupation. Extreme contempt. "He ain't got sense enough to carry guts to a bear." "He isn't fitten to pack guts to a bear." Rural Maine, New Hampshire, Missouri.

packed like sardines in a box, adv. phr. Crowded very closely together, "We were packed in there like sardines in a box." Nebraska.

paddle one's own canoe, v. phr. To make one's own way in life. Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 447. New Hampshire.

peach, n. One who has attractive qualities. A pretty girl. College Words and Phrases.

pick a bone, v. phr. Disagreeable subject to discuss. "I've got a bone to pick with you." New Hampshire, Nebraska.

pick a crow, v. phr. Have a controversy. Alabama, Arkansas.

pigeon-tailed coat, n. phr. Dress coat. Arkansas.

pill, n. A tiresome, insipid person. College Words and Phrases.

pin-headed, adv. Contempt., Missouri, Arkansas, Alabama.

pious as a house cat, adj. phr. Pretendedly pious. Maine.

play possum, v. phr. To deceive. "He's playing possum with you." Connecticut, Arkansas.

pleased as a bag (box) of monkeys, adj. phr. Delighted. Arkansas.

pleased as a basketful of chips, adj. phr. Delighted. Arkansas.

pleased as a basketful of possum-heads, adj. phr. Exceedingly well pleased. Arkansas.

plug, n. "Grind," A hard student. College Words and Phrases.

polite as a basket of chips, adj. phr. Arkansas, Connecticut.

poor as a crow, adj. phr. Poor in flesh. Maine.

poor as church mice, adj. phr. Very poor. Nebraska.

poor as Job's turkey, adj. phr. Poor in purse or in flesh. Alabama, Indiana, Maine.

pretty as a speckled pup, adj. phr. Exceedingly pretty. "She's pretty as a speckled pup." Arkansas.

proud as a dog with two tails, adj. phr. Very proud. Alabama, Indiana.

proud as a peacock, adj. phr. Very proud. Arkansas, Connecticut, Nebraska.

prune, n. 1. Slow witted fellow. 2. A queer fellow. College Words and Phrases.

pull up stakes, v. phr. To remove. Connecticut, Indiana, Arkansas, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 503; Alabama.

pull wool over the eyes, v. phr. To deceive. Arkansas, Connecticut, Indiana, Nebraska.

punkin, n. Head. Texas.

put a bug in one's ear, v. phr. A hint. Acquaint one with secret proceedings. Indiana, Arkansas.

put a little sugar in one's ear, v. phr. Give a hint. Arkansas.

put a spider in one's biscuit (dumpling, bread, etc.), v. phr. To tell one a piece of bad news, to do one an injury. Alabama.

put on another record, v. phr. Say something new. "Aw, put on another record." Lincoln Daily News. May 17, 1916. General.

put on (raw) dog, v. phr. To be affected. "She's putting on (raw) dog." Arkansas, Indiana.

put on the hog train, v. phr. To mislead or get better of in a bargain. Arkansas.

put the screws down, v. phr. To restrict or hamper a person. "They have put the screws down on him." Nebraska State Journal.

put through a course of sprouts, v. phr. To subject to hard work; to examine thoroughly. "The teacher put him through a course of sprouts." New Hampshire, New York.

quail, n. Young woman student. College Words and Phrases. also *quail roost,* meaning women's dormitory.

rag, n. Student publication. "Have you read the rag this morning?" i. e. "The Nebraskan." University of Nebraska.

rag-tag and (the) bobtail of creation, the, n. phr. The lowest social class. "They're the rag-tag and bobtail of creation." Arkansas. Standard Dictionary.

rain pitchforks,

rain pitchforks and darning needles, or pitchforks and chicken coops,

rain pitchforks and hammer handles,

rain pitchforks and nigger-babies,

rain pitchforks with sawlogs for handles, adv. phr. To rain in torrents. New York, Alabama, Virginia, Maine, Arkansas, Indiana, Nebraska.

rain seeds, n. Clouds that make the mackerel sky. Kentucky.

rain tadpoles, adv. phr. To rain heavily. Alabama.

raining cats and dogs, adv. phr. An exceedingly heavy rain. Texas, Nebraska.

raise Cain, raise Ned, raise the old Harry, raise the old Nick, v. phr. To carry on, have high old times.

rake over the coals. v. phr. To reprimand or scold one. Common as a verbal noun. "I'll give him a raking over the coals for that." Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, New York, Nebraska.

rattlesnake and polecat, n. phr. Descriptive of equally belligerent parties to a quarrel. "They're rattlesnake and polecat." Illinois.

red as a fox's tail, adj. phr. Connecticut.

red paint, n. Tomato catsup. College Words and Phrases.

right up to the handle, adv. phr. Very skillfully. In dead earnest. "He ran the farm right up to the handle." New York, New Hampshire.

rind, n. Brass, nerve. College Words and Phrases.

ring off, v. Stop talking. Probably from telephone office.

roast, n. or v. Unfair treatment, severe criticism, reproof. College Words and Phrases.

Robinson's barn, n. phr. A circumlocution. "Don't go way round Robinson's barn trying to tell it." Maine.

round peg in a square hole, n. phr. A misfit. "He's a failure; it's a case of being a round peg in a square hole." Nebraska.

rub in or *into,* v. phr. To administer (a defeat) with more than necessary completeness. "We rubbed it into them good and hard." College Words and Phrases.

run like a scared dog, v. phr. Run well, especially for political office. Indiana.

salter'n the briny ocean, adj. phr. Very salt. Rural Maine and New Hampshire.

sand in one's craw, n. phr. Courage, tenacity. Also grit in one's craw. "He won't do it; he hasn't any sand in his craw." Alabama, Indiana.

saphead, n. A blockhead, a weak-minded person. Connecticut, New Hampshire, Arkansas, Indiana, Nebraska.

sausage, n. A person easily imposed upon. College Words and Phrases.

saw gourds, v. phr. To snore furiously. Arkansas, Indiana, Virginia.

scarce as hen's teeth, adv. phr. Very scarce. Alabama. "Skurser than hen's teeth." New England, Nebraska.

scarce as snake's feathers, adj. phr. Extremely rare. Arkansas.

see the elephant, v. phr. See the sights. Connecticut, Arkansas, Wisconsin.

seed, n. A fellow of small ability or promise. *Hay seed.* A student from the country. College Words and Phrases.

set on a hair trigger, v. phr. Extremely sensitive. Kansas.

set one's cap for, v. phr. Seek to attract for matrimonial purposes. Alabama.

shake a stick at, v. phr. A phrase used to express a large number or quantity. "I have more chickens than you can shake a stick at." Cape Cod, Connecticut, Arkansas, Alabama, New York, Nebraska.

shark, n. One who excels in anything. College Words and Phrases.

sharp as a meat axe, adj. phr. Very sharp of tongue. Maine, Indiana.

sharp as tacks, adj. phr. Intellectually alert. Indiana.

shell out (the cord), v. phr. To pay (the money). Alabama, Arkansas.

she-wolf, n. Shrew. "She's an old she-wolf." Arkansas.

ship-shape, adj. adv. In proper order. Cape Cod.

shirt on a beanpole, like, n. phr. A bad fit. "It looks like a shirt on a beanpole." Rural Maine and New Hampshire.

shoot, v. Continue, go ahead. College Words and Phrases.

shooting-match, the whole, n. phr. Project. "He thought he was the whole shooting-match." Nebraska, Alabama.

shoot Luke, or give up the gun, imper. Begin or give place to another. Alabama, Indiana.

shut up like a morning glory, v. phr. To become dejectedly silent. Arkansas.

sick abed in the wood-box, adv. phr. In good health. A common answer to any inquiry after one's health. Rural Maine and New Hampshire.

sick as a horse, adj. phr. Very sick. New Hampshire.

sick as a dog, or *sick as a mule,* adj. phr. Very sick. Arkansas.

since Hec was a pup, adv. phr. For a long time. "I haven't seen him since Hec was a pup." Indiana, Virginia, Nebraska.

singed cat, n. phr. Appearance does it injustice. "That soup is like a singed cat." Connecticut.

sinker, n. 1. Silver dollar. 2. Wheat cakes. College Words and Phrases.

six feet and seven axe handles, adj. phr. A very tall person. Maine.

skin, v. To overcome. "I skinned him a mile." College Words and Phrases.

skin of his teeth, adv. phr. A phrase denoting a narrow escape. "He just got through by the skin of his teeth." Connecticut, New York, Nebraska, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 796.

skin one's teeth for one, } v. phr. To cheat. "Why he'd skin you
skin out of one's eye-teeth, } out of your eye-teeth." Maine, Nebraska.

skunk, n. A mean, contemptible fellow. Connecticut.

slam, n. Mean remark about a person. College Words and Phrases.

sledding hard, n. phr. "He has pretty hard sledding." Hard times. Massachusetts, Iowa.

slick as a button, adj. phr. Very easily, adroitly. Alabama.

slick as grease, adj. phr. Very smooth; (as adv.) very easily. Hamstead, New Hampshire, Connecticut.

slick as a ribbon, adv. phr. Easily, readily. "He carried both of them just as slick as a ribbon." Indiana.

slick as a whistle, adv. phr. Very smoothly. Arkansas, Connecticut, New York, Cape Cod.

slick as an eel, adj. phr. Slippery as an eel. Arkansas.

slow as an ox, adj. phr. Very slow. Maine.

slow as molasses in January, adj. phr. Exceedingly slow. New Hampshire, New York, Indiana, Nebraska.

small fry, n. phr. Insignificant person. Alabama.

small potatoes, n. phr. Insignificant person. Alabama, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 612, Arkansas and Connecticut.

small potatoes and few in the hill, n. phr. Lacking in generosity and breadth of mind. "He's small potatoes and a few on the hill." New Hampshire.

smart as a steel trap, } adj. phr. Intellectually alert. "She's as smart
smart as a whip, } as a steel trap." New Hampshire, New York.

smarter'n pig tail lightning, }
smarter'n a cricket, } adj. phr. Intellectually alert. New York.

smoke like a flue, v. phr. To smoke excessively. "Why, he smokes like a flue." Arkansas.

smoke one of your lamps, v. phr. To black an eye. Nebraska.

snag, n. A large amount of work. College Words and Phrases.

snake, n. 1. One who excels in anything. A hard student. College Words and Phrases.

snake in the grass, n. phr. A treacherous person. "He's a regular old snake in the grass; you want to look out for him." New Hampshire, Nebraska.

sneeze every time another takes snuff, v. phr. To follow another's lead. Maine.

snowball, v. Common appellation for a very black negro. Alabama.

snug as a bug (in a rug), adj. phr. Very snug. Alabama.

snug as the skin of your teeth, adj. phr. Miserly. Maine.

so soft you could run your finger through him anywhere, adj. phr. Used of effeminate persons. New Hampshire.

soft as mush, adj. phr. Very soft. Maine.

soft soap, n. Flattery. New York, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 624.

some pumpkins or punkins, n. phr. Of some consequence. "He thinks he's some pumpkins." New England, Arkansas, Alabama, New York, Indiana, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 626.

something dead up the branch, adj. phr. An expression of suspicion. Missouri.

sore as a boil, adj. phr. Very sore. Nebraska.

sorehead, n. A person who finds fault with the party or organization of which he is a member. Nebraska, Standard Dictionary.

sour grapes, n. phr. Envious disappointment. Connecticut, Arkansas, Nebraska.

sour on, v. Turn against. Nebraska.

spider legs, n. phr. "A little fellow with spider legs came out." Nebraska.

spin round on one's ear, v. phr. To get violently angry. Kentucky, Arkansas.

spinach, n. Beard. College Words and Phrases.

split the wind, v. phr. To go swiftly. Montana.

sponge, n. A person with large capacity for eating and drinking. College Words and Phrases.

spoon-holder, n. A cushioned window-seat. College Words and Phrases.

spout (to), v. To declaim. College Words and Phrases.

spring chicken, n. phr. A young person; used always in negative expressions. "She ain't no spring chicken." Alabama.

spry as a cat, adj. phr. Quick, alert. "She's spry as a cat." New Hampshire.

spry as a kitten, adj. phr. Alabama.

squirrel-headed, adj. Narrow-minded. "They're a squirrel-headed lot." Arkansas.

stab, n. An attempt at a recitation. College Words and Phrases.

stable, n. Shelf for literal translations. College Words and Phrases.

stamping ground, n. phr. A favorite resort. Connecticut, Arkansas. "Stompin(g) ground." Alabama.

star, n. One who is of high excellence. College Words and Phrases.

steer, n. A bore; awkward fellow. College Words and Phrases.

steer clear, adv. Keep away. Cape Cod. Alabama.

stern foremost, adv. Backwards, Cape Cod.

stick, n. An uninteresting person. College Words and Phrases.

stick in one's crop, v. phr. Hard to forget. "It always stuck in his crop." Cape Cod, Alabama.

stick-in-the-mud, n. phr. A slow person. Cape Cod Dialect. "He's such a stick-in-the-mud you can't depend on him." Arkansas, Alabama, New York, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 662.

stick one's head under the fence, v. phr. To be depressed. "I'm not going to stick my head under the fence even if he's elected." Indiana.

stick to one like a sick kitten to a hot brick, v. phr. To stick very closely to one. Alabama.

stick with a bug on the end of it, n. phr. A harmless weapon. See, Corn-cob and lightning bug. Arkansas.

stone-fence, n. A glass of cider with plenty of whiskey added. "Drank 30 stone-fences a day." New York.

stool-pigeon, n. A decoy robber in pay of the police who brings his associates into a trap laid for them. Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms. p. 665.

stovepipe hat, n. A high silk hat. See Standard Dictionary.

straight as a loon's leg, adj. phr. New England. Bartlett's Dictionary.

straight as a ramrod, adj. phr. Erect. Maine.

stubborn as a bobtail mule, adj. phr. Extremely stubborn. Alabama.

suffer like a thole-pin, v. phr. Suffer extreme pain. Cape Cod.

sunfisher, n. A bucking horse that stands straight up on his hind legs. Northwestern states.

swallow one's teeth, v. phr. To retract. "I just made him swallow his teeth." Arkansas.

swamp-angel,
swamp-rabbit,
swamp-rat,
} n. A country man from the swampy district. Arkansas.

sweat worse than a nigger at election, v. phr. To sweat copiously. Arkansas.

sweet as a pink, adj. phr. Very sweet and pretty. New Hampshire.

table-cloth and dish-rag, n. phr. First and second fiddle. "If I can't be table-cloth I'm not going to be dish-rag." Arkansas.

tads, n. Children. "She had three little tads." Kentucky, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 688.

take the rag off, v. phr. To excel, outshine. "She takes the rag offen anything in our settlement." Missouri.

take the reins in one's own hands, v. phr. Take charge of affairs. Nebraska.

take the roof off, v. phr. Applaud violently. "They like to 'a' taken the roof off." Arkansas, Nebraska.

take to the brush, v. phr. To run away. Missouri, Arkansas.

take to the tall timber, v. phr. Vanish suddenly. "He heard officers were after him so he took to tall timber." Arkansas. *Break for tall timber,* Indiana, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 777.

talk turkey, v. phr. Talk plainly. Missouri.

talk to one's plate, v. phr. Say grace, return thanks at table. Kentucky.

talk like one has one's mouth full of hot mush, v. phr. Talk indistinctly. Arkansas.

tall as a bean pole, adj. phr. Very tall, of persons. Maine.

tear one's shirt, v. phr. To cause great excitement—expression of violent emotion. Texas.

tear the bone out, v. phr. Work very hard. Arkansas.

thin as a (fence) rail, adj. phr. Very thin in flesh. Alabama, Aroostook, Maine.

thin as a rake (handle), adj. phr. Very thin. Aroostook, Maine, Indiana.

three shakes (of a dead) sheep's tail, or *jerk of a lamb's tail,* or *whisk of a lamb's tail,* adv. phr. A very short time, a trice. "I will be there in three shakes of a dead sheep's tail." Kentucky, Arkansas, Alabama, Cape Cod, Nebraska.

three sheets in the wind, adj. phr. Partially intoxicated. "That fellow was three sheets in the wind." New Hampshire, Alabama.

throw up Jonah, also *throw up yer shoe-taps,* v. phr. To be extremely nauseated. Rural Maine, New Hampshire.

tickled as a gimlet, adj. phr. A common comparison, meaning highly pleased. Connecticut.

tight as a mink, adj. phr. Drunk, intoxicated. "That fellow was as tight as a mink last night." New Hampshire.

tight as a wad, adj. phr. Very stingy. Indiana.

tight as Dick's hatband, adj. phr. Very tight. Alabama.

tight as the bark to a tree, adj. phr. Miserly, stingy. New Hampshire.

till the cows come home, adv. phr. Used to indicate a long period of time. "That board will stick till the cows come home." Indiana, Alabama, Arkansas and Missouri.

tin, n. Money. College Words and Phrases.

toad in the puddle, v. phr. "He thinks he's the biggest toad in the puddle," i. e., the most important person in the affair.

to be solid with, v. phr. To have a certain and safe understanding. "He's made himself solid with her." See Standard Dictionary.

to beat the cars, v. phr. To the skies, highly. "He is boosting that country to beat the cars." Arkansas.

Toby's heel, n. "Blacker'n Toby's heel," i. e., very black. New York.

toe the mark, v. phr. Meet obligations; act as told. Connecticut, Arkansas, Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms, p. 710.

toot one's bazoo, v. phr. Advertise one's self. "He's got to toot his bazoo." "Toot your bazoo." Arkansas, Indiana.

toot one's own horn, v. phr. To advertise one's self. New Hampshire. Or blow one's own horn. Arkansas, Nebraska.

tote one's own skillet, v. phr. Take care of one's own interests, a political phrase. Alabama.

tooth carpenter, n. Dentist. Arkansas.

touch with a ten-foot pole, v. phr. Used in negative expressions to add emphasis. "I wouldn't touch it with a ten-foot pole." Alabama.

tough as a biled owl, adv. phr. Used of a person of strong constitution. Maine.

tougher than a hair halter, adj. phr. "The meat was tougher than a hair halter." Connecticut.

tow-head, n. "To run like a tow-head," i. e., very fast. New York.

trot in double harness, v. phr. To be married. "I guess Joe has decided to trot in double harness for a while." Indiana.

true as steel, adj. phr. Trustworthy, very true. Nebraska.

tune the old cow died on, n. phr. Used derisively of a piece of music. "That's the tune the old cow died on." New Hampshire, New York.

turn up one's toes, v. phr. To die. Indiana. Also, Turn one's toes to the daisies. Arkansas.

ugly as a mud-fence,
ugly as a mud-fence stuck with tadpoles,
(so) ugly that he'd stop a bread wagon,
(so) ugly that he'd stop a nigger funeral,
} adj. phr.

Extremely ill-looking. "I know I'm as ugly as a mud fence stuck with tadpoles, but I'm not the only one." Arkansas, Alabama.

under the juniper tree, a. phr. Downcast; in allusion to Elijah. Kansas.

upper crust, n. phr. The aristocracy. Connecticut.

upper story to rent, n. phr. Empty head. Said of a stupid person. "I guess his upper story's for rent." Nebraska.

wagon-wheel, n. Silver dollar. Arkansas.

walk the chalk mark, v. phr. To walk straight, to be strictly disciplined. Connecticut, Arkansas, Alabama.

want the earth and the moon with two spans of barb-wire fence around it and whitewash the fence, v. phr. To desire altogether too much. Arkansas.

wart, n. 1. Anything small, mean. 2. A contemptible person. College Words and Phrases.

water-wagon, n. "To be on the water-wagon," to abstain from hard drinks. New York, Nebraska.

wet as a drowned rat, adj. phr. "I had been out in the rain all day and was wet as a drowned rat." Arkansas, Cape Cod, Nebraska.

whale, n. A phenomenal scholar College Words and Phrases.

wheat, n. An unsophisticated fellow. College Words and Phrases.

white as a sheet, adj. phr. "She was white as a sheet." Nebraska.

white cap, n. A cumulus cloud. Iowa.

white feather, n. Cowardice. Show the white feather.

white mule, n. New whiskey illicitly distilled. Arkansas.

whole team an(d) little dog under the waggin', n. phr. Used facetiously to indicate one's self-importance, energy, etc. Alabama.

wild as a buck rabbit, adj. phr. Very wild. Alabama.

wild cat, n. Whenever a man drills a well far from territory known to be good, he is said to have drilled a wild cat. Oil Wells.

wild-cat money, n. phr. Worthless paper money. "Mexico burns mass of wild-cat money." Nebraska State Journal, May 16, 1916.

wild goose chase, n. phr. Foolish trip. Alabama, Nebraska.

wilt like a cut gourd vine, v. phr. To yield quickly. "When he saw that he had to argue with both of us he wilted like a cut gourd vine." Indiana.

wipe the floor with, or *wipe up the earth with,* v. phr. To defeat. Massachusetts, General.

G. L. HANFORD.

MINOR NOTES

ADDITIONAL WORDS FROM THE NORTHWEST

buzzy, n. A one man drill used in the face of a tunnel. Miners in northern Idaho.

chinook, verb, intr. To blow warm (an impersonal verb like it rains, from the noun chinoik). "We were going for a sleighride, but it chinooked and the snow went off." Oregon, Washington, Idaho.

chippy-doctor, n. One who sharpens steel in the blacksmith shop of a mine. Northern Idaho.

doghouse, n. The cupola on a caboose. Railroad usage.

dry, n. Quarters fitted with tubs, showers, etc., at the 'works' of a mine. "Why doesn't he go to a dry and clean up?" Northern Idaho.

fink, n. A 'questionable' person. Northern Utah.

hack, n. A caboose. Railroad usage.

harp, n. An Irishman. Miners in northern Idaho.

honyocker, n. A Dakota cattleman. General in Montana and Dakota.

Irish fan, n. A shovel. Miners in northern Idaho.

maverick, n. An orphan (human). Wyoming and the Northwest generally.

none-so-pretties, n. Pansies. Idaho. Rare.

pimp, n. A timber-helper, one who assists with timbering in North Idaho mines.

shack, n. A brakeman on a freight train. "The shack gave the wrong signal." Railroad usage.

swamper, n. 1. A janitor for a saloon, pool-room, etc. 2. A general assistant to the engineer of a caterpillar traction engine. General.

vince, verb, tr. To choose. "I vince the blue hat." Park City, Utah; Idaho.

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WORDS USED IN THE DRUG TRAFFIC.

The illicit peddling of drugs—opium, cocaine, morphine—is a trade that has developed its own jargon. The following words, culled from San Francisco's underworld, are used to designate the common "commodities" that pass between drug addict and peddler:

TERMS FOR OPIUM.

Pen Yen—The Chinese word for opium.

Mud—Obviously so-named from the color and consistency of the drug. Very common.

Gow—A Chinese word which, a Chinese friend assures me, is meaningless unless allied with another Chinese word. Being respectable, he was unacquainted with this use of it.

TERMS FOR COCAINE.

C—Use of the initial letter. Very common.

Wings—Obviously so-named because of the narcotic effect of the drug.

White Cross—As differentiated from *Red Cross*, or morphine, below. Note the quality of whiteness peculiar to the more common terms for this drug—*snow*, etc.

TERMS FOR MORPHINE.

M—Use of the initial letter. Very common.

Joy Powder—Obviously so-named because of the narcotic effect of the drug. Cf. *Wings*, above. The terms are never confused.

Red Cross—As differentiated from *White Cross*, or cocaine, above.

Packages of any of the above drugs are termed *bings*, no doubt traceable to the regular English word, *bing*—a heap or pile. They may also be called *bindles*. Both of these words are very common.

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HOP-FIELD TERMS FROM WESTERN NEW YORK.

In *A Word-list from the Northwest* by Robert Max Garrett, published in Vol. V, Part III of *Dialect Notes*, occur several words in use in the Pacific Coast hop-fields. The following are a few gleaned from the Bristol Valley fields in Western New York.

Bale cloth. Specially made heavy cloth, imported from Scotland for baling hops.

Beat. Group of picking bins assigned to one pole-puller.

Dog. Shear-shaped instrument for pulling poles.

Grub hops, to. To dig out, early in spring, the superfluous vines in the hills.

Hop-lice. Small green insects which infest the plants.

Hop merchant. Large green worm, commonly known as the tomato worm, which feeds on the vines of the hop as well as on those of the tomato.

Hop needle. Long, curved needle, flattened at the point, for sewing the bales of hops.

Hop sacking. Burlaps.

Hop twine. Special soft twine for tying the tender shoots to the pole when they first come up.

Hop yard. Local name for the fields.

Kiln cloth. Coarse cloth of open weave for covering the slatted floor of the drying kiln.

Snag. Pole covered with thick, tangled vines and small, soft hops which are hard to pick.

Tie hops, to. To tie the young vines to the poles (usually done two or three times each spring).

Twine hops, to. To string twine from one pole to the next in the rows, so that the vines may grow out on them instead of collecting in a mass at the top of the pole.

J. R. SHULTERS.

A WORD-LIST FROM GEORGIA.

The following words from Georgia are taken from "Uncle Remus," including stories of "Mr. Fox, Mr. Rabbit, and Mr. Terrapin." They are of course, words used by the negroes, but are common, most of them, among the Kentucky mountaineers. In many instances it is difficult to determine the source of these words, as to whether they were first used by the negroes or by the mountaineers—both in Georgia and Kentucky.

ager, n. Ague. See *squinch-owl.*

boun', v. Bound, in the sense of certain, sure. "I *boun'* dere's a nigger some'r's on de road dis blessid day," etc.

biggity, adj. Bigoted. "Dey wuz too *biggity* fer ter look over de gyardin palin's."

bodaciously, adv. Bodily? "An' you'll slip *bodaciously* inter de calaboose."

dog my cats, v. phr. A term of asseveration, similar to "I'll be darned!" "But *dog my cats* if I don't b'leeve I spattered de nigger's eyeballs on de groun'."

familious, adj. Familiar. "W'en you see niggers gittin' dat *familious,* you kin' 'pen' on dere campin' wid you de ballunce er de season."

fellum, n. Felon, malignant sore. Cf. "bone fellum." "Hit'll las' longer dan a bone-*fellum.*"

fergit, v., limited by prep. phrase, as in: "Don't you *fergit dat off'n* yo' mine."

forward, adj. Early. "He hed done grabbed fo'er my *forwardes'* pullets." The same term is also applied to early vegetables.

harrycane, n. Hurricane. "An' de groun' look like wunner deze yer harrycanes had hit dar and fanned up de yeath."

honin', v. Excessive longing. "An' git ter fairly *honin'* arter sump'n' w'at got substance in it."

Jinawerry, n. January. "Hit may be de fote er de fif' er July, er it may be de twelf' er *Jinawerry.*"

lam's quarter, n. A plant cooked as "greens." "I got mustard, en poke salid, en *lam's quarter* in dat baskit."

lather, n. Ladder. "An' dese yer flags an' Jacob's *lathers,* I ain't seed dem, nudder."

mighty right, adj. phr. Intensive for right. "Youer *mighty right,* I'm lonesome, Brer John Henry." Very common in Ky.

nudder, conj. Neither. (See example under *lather.*)

nunited, adj. United, as in the "*Nunited* States."

onsettle, v. Unsettle. "Don't you let dese sines *onsettle* you."

poke salid, n. An unidentified plant used for "greens." (See *lam's quarter* for example.)

proned, v., or adj. Ingrained. "Tu'n a Mobile nigger loose in dis town, fote er July or no fote er July, an', me er him, one is got ter lan' in jail; hit's *proned* inter me."

purchis, n. Advantage (purchase). "But I sorter had de *purchase* on you, sezee."

roust, v. Arouse. "But I couldn't *roust* you outer bed."

sassafac, n. Sassafras. "An' eve'y time I sing out fer water I got b'ilin' hot *sassafac* tea."

shoat, n. A half-grown hog. "Day 'fo' yistiddy I kotch one un um lookin' over de fence at my *shoats.*"

squinch-owl, n. Screech-owl. "But I 'spizes fer ter year dogs a-howlin' an' *squinch-owls* havin' de ager out in de woods."

stidder, adv. Instead of. "Stidder dat, hit's de chu'ch." Cf. stiddier in Ky.

suvvigus, adj. "Sur-vigus," "sur-vigorous," of unusual vigor. Here, *angry,* applied to men or animals. Corresponds to *ambitious* (Ky.), as, an *ambitious* horse. "Brer Wolf, he say he de mos' *suvvigus.*" Cf. *vigrus* in Ky. and Va., and *survigrus* in Ky.

that, adv. So. "I'm *dat* hongry dat my stomach is gittin' ready to go in mo'nin'."

that, adj. The. "His hand bandaged to *that* extent that it looked like the stick," etc.

totch, v. Touched. "But he hadn't no mo'n *totch* me 'fo' I flung deze hyer bones in his face."

trapes, v. To "gad" about. "An' de nigger w'at k'n *trapes* 'round wid pies and not git in no alley-way an' sample um," etc.

tromp, v. Tramp. "An' watchin' de folks *trompin'* by."

yeath, n. Earth. (Breaking, or palatal influence.)

J. H. COMBS.

DIALECT WORDS FROM "THE PIONEERS."

[The following list of dialect words from J. Fenimore Cooper's "The Pioneers" was noted by the Rev. Mr. F. L. Palmer, formerly an editor of Webster's International Dictionary. First printed in 1823, this novel describes conditions of 1793 in the New York region by Otsego Lake. The list indicates how much material is yet to be annotated in early American writings. Mr. Palmer used the edition of Houghton, Mifflin and Company, copyrighted in 1898. The notes on Page 3 explain special meanings and uses of *cutter, jumper, pung, sled, sledge, sleigh, tow-pung, trainean.* —*Ed.*]

anan, interj. Always indicating astonishment; sometimes used interrogatively. See pp. 305, 325.

Brister-fashion. Same as *Bristol-fashion.* See p. 75.

burny, adj. Burnt. "*Burny* sugar is bad to the taste." P. 232.

damme, adj. "The lawyer who wore his hat on one side with a certain *damme* air." P. 152.

darter. Variant of *daughter.* P. 176.

frighty, adj. Timid; fearful:—used of passenger pigeons. "It gives me sore thoughts when I hear the *frighty* things whizzing through the air." P. 253.

garrel. Variant of *girl.* P. 157.

gaunty, adj. Gaunt; lean. "Hounds should be *gaunty* to run well." P. 476.

High Dutcher, n. phr. A German. See p. 92 and note.

if-so-be, conj. In case. "*If-so-be* that they ship a hand for my berth." P. 172.

jobber, n. One who clears land by the acre or job. P. 66.

lake-fish, n. Fish found in lakes. Pp. 96, 261.

linguister, n. A talker. "Perhaps she didn't understand you, woman; you are none of the best *linguister.*" P. 177.

newity, n. A novelty; a new experience. "This treatment is a *newity* to me." P. 177.

overhand, n. One who is much given to some act. "Chingachgook . . was an *overhand* for the tomahawk, never firing more than once or twice, before he was running in for their scalps." P. 154.

parling, n. Meaning uncertain, perhaps pearly ash. "Tending brick-kiln, splitting out rails, making potash and *parling* too, or hoeing corn." P. 230.

peeler, n. A severe storm. P. 171.

pitch, to make one's, v. phr. To make a settlement. "Where different settlers had, in the language of the country, 'made their pitch.'" P. 220.

potash, n. Used in the plural. "Barrels of *potashes.*" P. 220.

scollard, n. A scholar. P. 177.

scrimmage, v. To skirmish. "I was out scouting and *scrimmaging* with this tribe at the time." P. 211. Also *skrimmaging.* P. 155.

scurcity, n. Variant of *scarcity.* Quite a *scurcity* of rain lately. P. 393.

solemnize, v. i. To become solemn; to think high thoughts. "It is a spot to make a man *solemnize.*" P. 305.

tonguey, adj. Talkative; verbose; as *tonguey* man, *tonguey* speakers. See pp. 150, 157, 170.

whirligig, n. Mentioned in connection with winter sports on the ice. "Then the exciting and dangerous '*whirligig*' would be suffered to possess its moment of notice." P. 223.

F. L. PALMER.

MARBLES.

[Several contributors, chiefly Professor J. H. Combs and the Reverend Mr. F. L. Palmer, sent in the terms from the game of marbles which are here collected in a first list with a view to suggesting to some one the idea of a more complete collection. —*Ed.*]

back-kill, v. i. To hit an opponent's taw while rebounding. Ky.

back-killin', n. A case of 'back-killing.' The owner of the taw which hits must cry out "Back-killin'(s)." If the owner of the taw "back-killed" is quicker and cries out "Vence ye back-killins," his taw is not "dead" and he may continue in the game.

chase, n. A game in which one boy throws a marble and the other throws his so as to hit it and thus win it. Minn.

chiney, n. A marble made of china. Mass., Minn.

cob, n. A game similar to "cob" as played in Northamptonshire. Four small holes are made in the ground, in the shape of an L, with the third hole at the apex. After reaching the first hole, a player is allowed to "span" for each succeeding hole. Ky.

crooks, n. A term in the "keeps" game. When one of the "stakes," inside the ring, is knocked out near the edge, the boy shooting next may cry out "crooks," and be allowed to shoot "crooked" at it from the angle that will send it the nearest way out of the ring. If the boy who first knocked the "man" near the edge first cries out "Vence ye crooks," the next player must shoot at it in a diametric line. Ky.

dead, adj. Out of play:—of a taw after another taw has hit it.

dog up, v. phr. To shoot a taw not at the ring but away from it or nearer to it. "Dogging up" is sometimes advantageous in manouvering for position. Ky.

drop up, v. phr. = *dog up.* Ky.

duck, n. The "stakes" in "keeps." Ky.

everythings, interj. See *nothings.*

fat, adj. Said of a taw which rolls inside the ring and stops there. The owner of a "fat" taw quits, removing his taw.

fudge, v. i. In "keeps," to move the knuckles along the ground with the taw, and slip up. This is against the rules. Ky.

glassy, n. A glass marble. Mass., Minn.

go, n. The start. Also *goes.* "The *goes* is usually determined by first seeing who can shoot closest to a mark." Ky.

hice, interj. A call in the ring games given by a boy who wishes to raise his hand for a shot. Probably from *hoist.* Mass.

holly-golly, n. Name of a game formerly played in Ontario.

inchins, n. pl. A case of one's taw rolling up close to an opponent's taw (approximately within an inch). If one then cries out "Inchin's," the opponent must shoot from where his taw lies without moving back for better position. The opponent is not so bound if he cries out first, "Vence ye inchin's." Ky.

keeps, n. A game played for the stakes. The stakes are placed in the center of the ring, and the "taw," "go," or starting place is the circumference.

kicks, n. A case of one's "taw" hitting some person or animal. If the opponent calls out "kicks," the "taw" must be placed where it presumably would have rolled. This is not necessary if the player first cries out, "Vence ye kicks." Ky.

killed, adj. = *dead.* Ky.

knuckle down, v. phr. To shoot (the taw) without lifting the knuckle from the ground. Ky.

knucks, n. pl. A game, so called from the winner being allowed to shoot his taw at the taw of the loser, placed in the loser's knuckle. Ky.

lag, v. i. To drop up near the ring with a taw, after winning the "goes;" also, to shoot at the ring for the "goes." Also *lag up.* Ky.

lie up, v. phr. = *lag up.*

long-taw, n. A game like the Berkshire game. Two play, each taking a shot at the other with his taw, a "marble" being paid in forfeit to the one making a hit. Also *long-tawl, tracks.*

nothings, interj. A call which gave no privileges, whereas *everythings* gave all. Mass.

nugs, n. pl. Short for *knuckles?* "The one who came in last had to put down his closed fist on the ground and let the others drive their marbles at his knuckles. . . . Hard shooters could give very painful *nugs.*" Mass.

picks, n. A case where an obstruction prevents shooting at a taw." If he cried out "Picks," he may clear it away, unless his opponent first calls, "Vence ye picks." Ky.

pis out, v. phr. = *dog up.* Ky.

poke, v. = *fudge.* Ky.

punch, v. = *fudge.* Ky.

riders, n. A case when one side has knocked from the ring all the marbles but one, and is allowed to shoot only at the opposing taws.

ring, n. = *keeps.* Also *ring taw.* Ky.

rounce, interj. A call given when one's taw is so placed that he cannot shoot at the ring or at an opponent. If he calls "Rounce" he may select

a convenient place to shoot from, unless his opponent first calls, "Vence ye rounce." Also *rouncin's*, n. Ky.

slippin's, n. A case when the taw slips off one's finger accidentally. The player by calling "Slippin's," may take another shot unless his opponent first calls "Vence ye slippin's." Also *slippin's over*. Ky.

smooch, v. i. To extend one's hand beyond the proper limits. Minn.

spacer, n. Used in *one-spacer, two-spacer*, etc.—marking the distance at which a marble is set up for the other to shoot. A block of concrete sidewalk is one space. "Gee, that's a ten-spacer." Minn.

stakes, n. A case when only two men remain. Ky.

steely, n. A steel marble. Minn.

straights, n. = *Vence ye crooks*. See *crooks*.

taw, n. 1. The place shot from. 2. The marble shot with. Also *tawl*.

tracks, n. = *long-taw*.

trackse, v. i. In case of "riders," to shoot so as to push the lone man from the ring. If successful, the player may then shoot at the opposing taw. Also *tracksing*, v. n.

FIELDS FOR COLLECTORS.

The list of collectanea in progress which appears regularly on Page 4 of the cover of these publications by no means exhausts the territory or classes of material in which collections are desirable. The following scattered notes, from a great variety of sources, are offered as a means of suggesting further inquiry.

1. Folk-lore Animals.

A set of nature fake creatures of whom the prototype is that vanishing species of the genus Felix, the Cheshire cat.

bowger. Maine.

kickle snifters. They live in old men's beards and in circular lakes. They bore a hole in the center. They laugh at you. You take them in the scow. New Brunswick.

kankagee. Maine.

lucives. A kind of wild-cat,—perhaps from *loup servier*. Maine.

mountain rabbit.

philamaloo bird.

screbouil. A creature that steals chickens.

side hill winder. A badger with the right foreleg abnormally short. New Eng.

swamp gahoon. An animal that makes snowshoe tracks.

swamp swiver.

tree squeak. An animal that makes a noise like trees rubbing in the wind.

wampus cat. A creature heard whining about camps at night.

whiffenpuff. A strange animal that ranges at night.

2. Negro Lingo.

The *Saturday Evening Post* stories offer few exceptional words, the distinctive touches there being chiefly idiomatic. In Thomas W. Talley's "Negro Folk Rhymes, Wise and Otherwise" (Macmillan, 1922), occur a number of uses which indicate here a considerable field.

call and sponse. Song and refrain impromptu.
cravenate, v. i. To consider.
gargalize, v. i. Meaning uncertain. P. 137.
hant. Variant of *haunt.* General.
Hill Billy. A poor white.
Jimmy-john, n. Demijohn.
leg bail, to give, v. phr. To run away.
pater-roller, n. = *patroler,* a white guard whose duty was to see that slaves stayed at home unless they had permission to go.
quills, n. pl. A kind of music instrument in use before the Civil War.
razzer. Variant for *razor.* General.
rucus, n. A rumpus; ruction.
sassfac, n. Sassafras.
segashuate, v. i. To associate.
titterer, v. i. To laugh.

3. Army and Navy Slang.

The late war having greatly modified sailors' and soldiers' talk, it is time some one made a record of earlier uses. At Annapolis and West Point are many interesting expressions. Thus at Annapolis, the natives are *crabs,* the freshmen *plebs,* the sophomores *youngsters.* Instead of taking a girl to a dance the young man *drags* her there.

4. Restaurant Phrases.

A picturesque though probably ephemeral set of expressions have arisen in the cafeterias, which seem to have promoted self-service in the matter of language. People are generally familiar with such abbreviations as *drop two on* in giving an order for dropped eggs on toast. In one Bowery restaurant this order was given in the phrase "Adam and Eve on a raft;" and when it was changed to scrambled eggs, the waiter called out, "Wreck 'em." A few examples follow.

American. Cheese sandwich.
brown the griddles. Direction to the chef to prepare buckwheat cakes.
gravel train. Sugar bowl.
salt horse. Corned beef.
Trilby. Ham sandwich with onion.

EDITOR.

AMERICAN ENGLISH. BY GILBERT M. TUCKER. NEW YORK, ALFRED A. KNOPF, 1921. 375 pp.

The study of that branch of the English language which is developing along certain lines of its own in the United States has been receiving an increasing amount of more or less careful and thoughtful attention during the past decade or two. I say "more or less careful and thoughtful," because many rather recent articles on the subject, particularly those in some of the daily papers, are content merely to call attention to scattered phenomena of our American speech, and could hardly be considered more than mere passing comment. Two books, however, both published last year, seem to me to have done much toward giving to the study of American speech, at last, a position of dignity and prominence which must henceforth entirely preclude the possibility of merely scoffing at or brushing aside as a passing phase of English that great and growing body of speech evolving on this side of the Atlantic. One of these books is the new edition of Mencken's *The American Language,* which is deserving of an intensive review of its own, and the other, Tucker's new-old book which he calls, *American-English.*

Some of Tucker's material, particularly much of the bibliography, was published in 1895 in his little volume entitled *Our Common Speech,* and that in turn had been developed from studies published as early as 1882. So we may say that the present book represents the researches and emphasizes the very marked evolution in the attitude of English scholars toward such researches, of a period of forty years. In his first chapter Mr. Tucker attempts to sum up the gradual change in the attitude of Englishmen toward those variations from their own speech which they have noticed in the language of the United States, and if I may depart from the customary procedure of the reviewer, by giving my main unfavorable reaction first, instead of slipping it in as a final dig, I should say that the author seems to me to have given a good deal of prominence to that rather

superficial "give and take" between belligerent British and pugnacious Americans which still shows up periodically in the correspondence columns of certain daily and weekly journals, but which I believe has largely passed from the domain of true English scholarship. As a review of what men have thought and said on the subject, the chapter is interesting, but it revives somewhat that bitterness of feeling which most English scholars are glad to ignore. Moreover the last chapter adds to the impression that one gets of an unprofitable expenditure of time and space on the emphasis of this old grievance, by examining rather critically the book entitled *Passing English* by Ware.

The second chapter, in summarizing the ten most important earlier treatises on Americanisms, gives at once the purpose and the justification for such an up-to-date review of the field as this book in fact is. For in the third and fourth chapters, which constitute the main part of Tucker's contribution, the author has attempted to differentiate between what he terms *exotic* Americanisms, i. e. those which are born on English soil, and *real* Americanisms. The two alphabetically arranged lists have been compiled from earlier collections, and in the chapter on *exotic* Americanisms much interesting material has been added giving early occurrences of the words in English literature, as evidence of their English origin, and some comments by the author, himself.

The selection of the list, however, of *exotic* Americanisms is based upon a definition of Americanisms which might not, indeed, as the author admits, does not, appeal to all persons. He assumes that birth rather than present usage determines the question, a ruling which if applied to the citizenship of the land, would play havoc with the claims of a good many of the very enthusiastic and long-habituated of our imported citizens. I confess that my own feeling in the matter is toward the claim of a word or phrase purely on the basis of present or prolonged usage. If a well-educated intelligent Englishman finds a word common in American usage, and quite alien to his own mode of speech, he might justly, it seems to me, call the word an Americanism. But that is certainly quarreling over a legal technicality, and while, as the author says on page 72, "there is only one alternative" as to a word's being or not being an Americanism, either in form or in meaning, there would seem

to be two quite different bases on which to formulate one's judgment. Certainly, if we do not admit that *I guess* is at the same time Chaucerian English, and a modern Americanism, we cannot say that certain Teutonic words might be found in very early Germanic literature, and yet be good French words to-day.

Because I do lean toward the argument of usage rather than of provenance, I find a fairly large number of "*exotic* Americanisms" at which I am inclined to balk, as altogether unknown to me, a tolerably well-traveled American. The difficulty lies, no doubt, in the fact that they are absolute at the present time, and in a number of instances may never have been used except locally, or professionally, in this country. The lists of both Chapters III and IV clamor for some analysis which will make it possible to herd into separate pens Americanisms that are general today, obsolete today, provincial, or social. In other words, one wants, I suppose, what cannot reasonably be expected until the work of the American Dialect Society is farther advanced and a great American dialect dictionary compiled. Perhaps, as Tucker says (page 24), we have no dialects, in the sense in which England has, and yet it must be admitted that strong dialectical tendencies characterize a few general sections of the United States. The true Bostonian or the Southerner, to cite two good examples, are rather marked examples, wherever they may be. And not only do these lists present to me the difficulty of distinguishing between old and recent Americanisms, and general and provincial forms, which obviously could be explained to my satisfaction if I had access to a good historical dictionary of Americanisms, and an American dialect dictionary, but such words as *clevel, divart, droger, etc.*, suggest that there is at present need of more studies in the social dialects of the country. Surely Tucker, in his lists, has not done justice to the constantly growing vocabulary of the automobile business, and of the realm of sports, within the United States, not to mention numerous trades and professions that are coloring our speech with their insistent expressions. We may be thankful to Mr. Tucker for freshly presenting this suggestive wealth of material in such a way as to challenge our more minute examination of it, as well as to emphasize the problems and responsibilities of the Dialect Society.

Various phrases, and words in the lists under consideration, suggest interesting lines of research, and evoke some protests, in certain instances. The expression "I have never *been* back to the old place" (page 20) has an extended connotation which the author seems to have missed, for, as it is very generally used in such expressions, *be* signifies motion to and from as well as presence at a given place. I am inclined to think that he is wrong in stating that the *l* of *almond* is "commonly sounded in this country" (page 32). Within a few decades, to my certain knowledge, it has been dropped from the speech of various localities. But here again is emphasized the need of a careful historical study of American usage. While it may be "absurd" to pronounce the *g* in *oleomargarine* as a *j*, none the less it is so pronounced in many places, though I cannot say how general it is. Again I should say that the use of *expect,* under discussion on page 43, is common in the more western portions of the country, and I must confess that, teacher of English though I am, I have been so accustomed to the use of the progressive form of verbs, cited as "a misuse" (page 46), in such a phrase as "I am sending you," that I had never realized that it is to be condemned. Indeed in this particular instance I suspect that one is confronted with one of those numerous questions of diction where personal taste is the final determining factor.

In a few cases words are listed which illustrate the working of special linguistic tendencies, themselves due to broader principles of language growth, and so many have sprung up in America, even as they sprang up in England. So *Cuss* (page 104) illustrates a tendency to eliminate *r* before *s* by the process of vocalization, and is further seen in the forms *wuss* (for *worse*), and *nuss* (for *nurse*). A few, again, might easily be coined, as so often happens, by the application of prefix or suffix to a common word in order to meet a sudden demand for the expression of a definite idea—such words as *despisement, disfellowship, disunionist, finefied, gabblement, involvement, logicize, mobocracy, obligement, publishment.* They certainly have all the ear-marks of the *nonce* word, and, I suspect, should be so classed. Likewise I should be inclined to segregate, as illustrative, not of provincial or national usage, but rather of that centuries-old confusion of weak and strong verbs, *dove* (for *dived*), *fit* (for *fought*), *gotten* (for *got*), *het* (for *heated*),

hung (for *hanged*), etc. In both of these groups it would be difficult to prove that the forms under consideration originated either in one country or the other, since the principle involved is to be found working in both.

The use of *dare* for *may*, and *dornick* certainly came from the so-called Pennsylvania Dutch.

A few errors have crept into the text, particularly *sheeeny* for *sheeny*, page 184, and *thought* for *though*, page 220. In the bibliography the following:

page 338, for *Harrison*, item 35, read *Higginson*.

page 339. The article on *Archiv* is on page 130 of vol. IV, not on page 1.

The article copied from Blackwood's into Littell's *Living Age*, 95: 218, is the one in 102: 399 rather than 183: 118.

I might add that Freeman's article in Longman's Magazine 1: 80 is continued at some length at 1: 314.

The bibliography, like the other chapters of the book, helps in the laying before the student of the American language, the gradual accumulation of material in this field, while a comparison with Mencken's very extensive and thorough-going collection of titles will show that it is far from complete, yet it is a very helpful part of the book.

Arthur G. Kennedy.

Stanford University.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The activities of the Society in 1921, owing to its temporarily impaired treasury, have been devoted chiefly to a campaign for increased membership. Following up Professor Manly's presidential address to the Modern Language Association of America in 1920, a circular letter was addressed to members of the Association who seemed likely to be interested. This letter resulted in a gain of somewhat more than sixty members. Many others have been introduced to the Society through the very effective address of the Treasurer, with the result that the present roll, including subscribers, but excluding local branches, consist of 470 members. The roll is nearly if not quite free of members with unpaid dues.

In order to revive the local branches which had fallen into neglect during the war, and to inaugurate new branches, a circular letter was addressed in November to about 230 presidents of academic institutions. This letter suggested the appointment of an organizing secretary and the formation of a local branch. Although the letter called for reply only when due time for action had elapsed, already thirty-four such secretaries have been appointed, and material has been sent to them to present at an organization meeting.

The annual number for 1921, which was mailed from the printer's office on December 20th, gives notice of the collections in progress and of fields to be assigned. There should be added a collection of Newfoundland terms to be made by George Allen England, author of the collection of Maine words. He expects to spend this spring in Newfoundland and on a whaler making a special collection for the Society.

PERCY W. LONG,
Secretary.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY.

Statement, December, 1921.

Balance in Bank, Jan. 1, 1921	$132.83
Total Receipts to Dec. 7, 1921	374.96
Total	$507.79
Total Expenditures to Dec. 7, 1921	195.45
Balance	$312.34
Balance in Bank, Dec. 7, 1921	$312.34

Permanent Fund:

31 U. S. War Savings Stamps, present value @ $4.59	$142.29

Taylor Starck,
Treasurer.

Expenditures Jan. 1 to Dec. 7, 1921.

Postage on "Notes" to Japan	$ .82
Crimson Printing Office. Postals	7.50
Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor to Printing Vol. V, Part 3	108.08
P. W. Long for Book Fund	11.00
Letter files and cards	1.70
Crimson Printing Office. Letter heads, etc.	25.75
Harvard "Coop." Stationery	3.00
Postage	3.00
Crimson Printing Office. Letter heads, etc.	19.50
Misses Littlefield. Multigraphing	15.10
Total	$195.45

Taylor Starck,
Treasurer.

DIALECT NOTES.
Volume V, Part VI, 1923.

SNAKE COUNTY TALK

By Jay L. B. Taylor.

Las' summer 's a year ago, me an' Spike Randolph we was a-settin' out yander on the gallery a-smokin' an' a-jawin' one another, an' d'reckly Spike he h'isted his heels up on the railin' an' rared his cheer back ag'in the wall an' 'en he retch fer his ol' pipe an' commenced a-fillin' hit 'ith some o' my long green. Atter he got lit up an' taken a puff 'r two he says, "Taylor," says he, "how long you-all been hyar 'n Snake County, anyways?"

"Well," says I "le's see. Pap an' Mam they brung me hyar f'm Newbrasky when I 's 'bout ten year ol'. I'm right at forty now, so I 'low I must 'a' been hyar 'bout thirty year, off an' on. Why?"

Spike he sortuh scrooched futher down in his cheer so's he c'd lay on his shoulder blades an' 'en he jist sot thar a-lookin' off up Bresh Creek like he was studyin' right hard 'bout suthin; 'peared like he hadn't give no min' t' whut I says an' I b'gun t' figger he didn't aim on answerin' me a-tall. But purty soon he scrouched down a leetle futher an' says, "Well," seys he, "I 'low you ortuh be right handy 'ith Snake County talk, then."

"Yeah," says I. " 'Low I am. Why?"

"Hit's changed a right smart sence you-all come hyar, I s'pose."

Well, I sortuh mulled that over an' dad-blame' 'f he wasn't right! Hit shore has changed. W'y, I rickollect when Pap an' Mam fust come in hyar they mighty nigh like t' died a-laughin' at whut they hyeard, an'—but they haint no call fer a-gorn on about that.

Me an' Spike we sot thar an' chinned f'r a right smart spell longer, me a-tellin' him how sich an' sich words ortuh be sounded an' whut they meant an' 'en him a-tellin' me whur they come frum an' all sich 's that, an' d'reckly Spike he says, " 'Pears like some feller ortuh git up a word list fer this neck o' bresh."

"A whut?" says I.

"Word list," says he. "All the quair words you-uns has got. W'y, I been a-hyearin' words sence I come hyar 't they don't nobody else on airth ever use. No. sir! Not no one! Reckon y' caint make up sich a list?"

"Well," says I, bein' sortuh riled at them remarks, "I don't reckon hit 'd be sech a all-fired long un at that. We-all aint s' dad-blame' ign'r'nt back hyar 'n the hills 's you-uns mought 'a' hyeard tell we was."

"Aw, now," says he, easy like, "keep y'r shirt on an' ca'm down. You shorely got sense enough t' see hit 'd be a favor t' the world fer you t' make up a list. Prob'ly thirty year ago you-alls had words hyar 't you don't never hyear no more. Haint I right?"

He shore was, an' atter I studied about whut he said I tol' him so.

"Yes," he says, "an' hit'll jest keep a-gorn that-away till d'reckly you Southwest Missourians' talk 'll be a dead language, so's hit ortuh be ree-corded an' pree-served whilst hit kin be. Reckon how many o' you-all's words they air, anyways?"

"Oh, prob'ly twenty-thirty," says I. "Mebbee forty, but they shore haint fifty, an' I know plumb good an' well they haint nothin' like no hunderd er so."

But he kep' at me till I fin'ly tol' him I would try an' git up a list, so's I come back hyar 'n the house an' b'gun writin' down the ones I c'd rickollect, an' dad-blame my hide 'f I didn't git better 'n a hunderd right off! An' the next evenin' atter I got done a-weedin' the ingern patch, w'y I written down suthin' like fifty more—'peared like ever' time I pulled up a weed I ketched a new word. Next day I thunk up a lot more, an' the day atter that I dug out some more till d'reckly I gethered me up a hull dan' passel o' the dad-burn' things, an' hit shore did seem like Spike was right whenever 'n he said we-alls had a language of our own, a home-made language, he says.

But if he's right an' the world ralely does want suthin' done about keepin' track o' how we-alls talk, w'y hyar's the list.

I'd be mighty proud to fix up a rule er two fer usin' sich words as You an' You-all an' You-alls an' You-uns an' We an' We-all an' We-alls an' We-uns, but they haint no way o' doin' that less 'n I jest written down all the ways I ever hyeard 'em used,

an' they haint nary man on airth kin do that atter he's been a-sayin' an' a-hyearin' 'em fer thirty year.

'Nother trouble is 't right hyar lately we been a-havin' a right smart better schools 'n we did back yander 'bout the time I kin first rickollect. Futhermore all them ol' fellers 't come in hyar f'm Tennessee an Car'liney an' them places has mos'ly died off an' don't talk no more so's they's sev'r'l o' the ol' time words 't haint never used no more much. An' 'en b'sides all that these touristers keep a-fotchin' in new words so's 'ithout a chance they's sev'r'l o' our words plumb petered out an' gone an' give way fer new-uns.

But I've done sot down all the rale Snake County words I've met up 'ith so fer. O' course a feller mought hyear some of 'em somewhurs else, like down in Arkansaw er over yander 'n the Territory (hit's Oklahomey, now) but he'll shore hyear mighty nigh ever' one of 'em if he stops in these parts long.

I'm right sorrow I caint show jest how they ortuh be called ever' time—seems like they haint no letters fitten fer a-spellin' 'em like they sound —but Spike he says he knows a lot o' leetle marks t' put up over some o' the letters so's the editor kin make out whut I'm a-tryin' to show him an' I 'low that ortuh be good enough.

An' let me say in partin' that if they's anyone a-aimin' on a-writin' ary other novel about us hill billies down hyar in the Ozarks an' haint shore 't he kin make his book people talk like we-all do, w'y I'll be proud t' he'p him out, for I rickollect readin' a book oncet about a feller a-herdin sheep down this side o' Springfield—sortuh preacher, he 'peared like—an' the feller 't written that book made him git off talk 't never was hyeard 'n these parts, an' if it had 'a' been hit'd 'a' shore a-started a fight, so's I remain

Yores Resp'y,

A.

accident, n. Doubt. "'Ithout a accident hit'll rain ag'in mornin'."

acknowledge the corn, v. phr. To admit, to confess, especially when caught in a lie or when accused of exaggeration.

act big, v. phr. To be trucculent or disagreeable, to seek a quarrel. "He got t' actin' big so I up an' whanged 'im one." Also 'act smart' or 'git uppity.'

afeerd, adj. Afraid.

aggcr-pervokin', adj. Aggravating, exasperating, annoying, irritating.

agg on, v. phr. To egg on, to incite, as to encourage a quarrel.

ag'in, prep. By a certain time or date. "Hit'll rain ag'in mornin'." Also, Against, and Again. "He run ag'in a stump." "I'll come ag'in." Also, When. "Ag'in I got thar he was done gone." Also, meaning opposed to. "I'm ag'in prohibition."

aidge, n. Edge.

v. To move along, as on a seat. "Aidge over so's I'll have more room."

aig, or *agg*, n. Egg. See *Agg on, supra.*

ager, n. Ague.

Buck ager, n. Nervousness or excitement induced by eagerness to bag game or to excel in marksmanship or in other sport.

ailded, v. Ailed. "Whut ailded him?"

aim, n. Intention. "Hit's my aim t' fin' another bee tree."

v. To intend. "I aim on gorn'." Or. "I'm a-aimin' on gorn."

aint done, v. phr. A form of denial commonly used by children or by facetiously inclined adults.

air, v. Are.

airth, n. Earth.

akern, n. Acorn.

Alberty, prop. n. Elberta (peach)

all, pron. Used with who, what, you and we, as what-all, you-all, etc.

allow, v. To suppose, to assume. Usually contracted to ' 'low.' "I don't 'low I'll go." "I 'low he shorely must be sick."

almanick, n. Almanac.

ambeer, n. Tobacco juice. "I spit 'is eye full o' ambeer."

alter, v. To castrate. Seldom used in any other sense.

American wire, n. Any variety of heavy, woven fence wire.

any God's amount, n. phr. In great quantities. "We shore air a-havin' any God's amount o' rain this summer."

Aprile, prop. n. April.

armstrong, n. A grain cradle. Applicable also to any primitive form of tool used by hand.

argy, v. To argue.

ary, adj. One, any, a. "You-all got ary knife?"

augur, v. To plan, to scheme. To 'augur 'roun' ', to investigate surreptitiously.

atter, prep. and adv. After. "I'm a-gorn home atter dinner."

B.

back teeth's a-floatin', v. phr. To express painful fullness of the bladder.

ba'm, n. Balm.

ba'my, adj. Balmy. "Hit shore is ba'my weather now."

bar, n. A long, low, clean stretch of gravel or sand appearing between a river's edge and the bank proper.

bare naked, adj. Naked. "He come a-runnin' out jist plumb bare naked."

beat it, v. phr. To hurry away.

bar'l, n. Barrel.

bat, n. A disreputable woman.

v. To strike quickly and violently. Cf. *Belt.* Also a noun in the phrase, 'on a bat,' meaning intoxicated. Also v. t., as "He batted his eyes," *i. e.,* winked suddenly.

batch, v. To live alone, or without a cook.

n. 'An ol' batch,' a bachelor.

bawl out, v. phr. To reprimand. "I shore bawled 'im out fer sayin' whut he did."

beard, v. That act of a man who has a coarse, wirey, stubble beard in rubbing his cheek or chin forcibly against another person's.

n. A barb, as on a fishhook or a gig (fish spear) or on barbed wire. Also the barbed husk of certain grains.

beat, adj. Astonished, dumfounded. "I was plumb beat," or "beat out."

bed down, v. phr. To provide bedding for animals. May refer to the act of putting a child to bed. To 'bed out' plants means to set them in beds rather than in rows.

belt, v. "I bélted him one." Cf. *Bat, supra.*

biddable, adj. Tractable, docile, gentle, obedient. "Thar's the biddablest mule in the settlement."

bide, v. To bear, to endure. "I caint bide a squallin' young-un."

bideable, adj. Bearable, tolerable. See above.

bigger 'n a skinned mule, adj. phr. Extremely large, as a person.

big road, n. A main thoroughfare, a highway.

bile, n. A boil, an abscess.

To boil. Past tense, Bilet. Pronounced as one syllable.

bite off more 'n he kin chaw, v. phr. To undertake more than can be accomplished.

blaggard, v. To use vulgar, obscene language. May be, but is seldom used as a noun. Corrupt form of blackguard.

blate, v. or n. Bleat. Frequently pronounced Blat. "I heerd a sheep blate." "He let out a blate." Also to cry out against, to complain loudly.

blow, v. To rest from strenuous activity. "Let y'r mules blow," *i. e.,* let them rest, or have time to regain their breath.

bluff, n. Cliff. Usually refers to stone only, clay or slate cliffs being designated as 'banks.'

board, n. A shingle split out with a fro and made by hand.

board tree, n. Any straight grained tree that may be split easily. Ordinarily the term has reference only to oak or pine timber.

booger, n. Dried mucous of the nose. Also a louse. "Sam's got boogers in 'is hair."

book, n. The Bible.

v. To credit, to charge, to enter as a debit when payment is deferred.

boot, n. Additional value, usually cash, involved in an exchange or trade. "I'll give (or swap) my cow an' two dollars t' boot fer yours."

bore, v. To embarrass, to ridicule, to humiliate. "I shore was bored when I foun' out they was a big hole in m' overhauls."

borned, v. Born. "When was the baby borned?"

borry, v. To borrow.

bottom land, n. Valley land adjacent to a stream.

boughten, adj. Having been bought from a merchant. Frequently heard as 'store boughten.' "I got on m' store boughten shirt."

branch, n. A small stream flowing from a spring. Cf. *Spring Branch.*

brand, n. Bran.

breachy, adj. Given to breaking through or throwing down or jumping over fences. "That mule's plumb breachy." Cf. *Rogue.*

break it off in, v. phr. To utter a sarcastic retort.

break out, v. phr. To break or train an animal to work. "I broke out that colt m'se'f."

brent, v. Burned. "The wood's all done brent up."

bresh, or *brash*, n. Brush. When used as a verb the first usually prevails.

brickle, adj. Brittle. "He's plumb work brickle these days," *i. e.*, very energetic.

bring home the bacon, v. phr.. To accomplish a difficult task.

britchin', n. Breeching. One o' the mules has broke 'is britchin."

britch loader, n. Breech loading, as a fire arm.

buck ager, n. Excitement, nervousness induced by a desire to win in a contest of skill or strength.

buck eye, v. To poison with buck-eye, cockle-burr or other poisonous plants. Also to make sick with tobacco. "That ol' long green shore did buck-eye me!"

bug huntin', to 'ride a man bug huntin', to subject him to merciless sarcasm or ridicule, or to beat or maul him severely.

bug out, v. To protrude. "His eyes bug out," *i. e.*, are prominent.

bull, v. Said of a cow desirous of mating. "That cow's a-bullin'." Also to breed a cow. "That cow ortuh be bulled." Neither term is used in mixed company.

bull horn, n. A large, pitchy pine knot.

bull tongue, n. The simplest form of plow, or the steel point for such an implement. Cf. *Calf tongue.*

bung up, v. phr. To batter, bruise, damage or mutilate. To suffer an accident. "Bill got all bunged up when he fell over the bluff."

buryin', n. A funeral. "Air you-all a-gorn t' the' buryin'?"

buryin' ground, n. A cemetery.

bust, v. To burst. Past tense the same, or Busted.

To bust a hame string = to fail in an undertaking.

To bust out middles = to plow out the space between rows of growing crops.

To bust a person = to strike him violently. Cf. *Bat* and *Belt.*

To bust him with a rock = to strike him with a stone.

To bust him one = to strike him violently. Cf. *Bat, Belt, Whang.*

by guess and by God, prep. phr. Without measure or pattern. "I built that shack b' guess an' b' God."

by-word, n. A favorite oath or expression. "His by-word is 'Dad-blame'."

C.

cagey, adj. Passionate, sensual. Cf. *Horny.*

ca'm, v. or adj. Calm.

can, v. To discharge, as an employee. "Henry got canned."

calf tongue, n. A narrow, steel plow-shovel or point, much narrower, thinner and lighter but similar in shape to a bull tongue, q. v.

call, n. Reason. "They haint no call fer sech talk."

campaignin' aroun', v. phr. Wandering about aimlessly or carelessly.

can'le, caint hold a can'le to, v. phr. Unable to compete, compare or keep up with. "Jane caint hol' a can'le t' Mary fer looks." "His place caint hol' a can'le t' mine." (For fertility, location, value, etc.)

can'le light, n. Dusk, twilight. Modified by 'early can'le light' or 'late can'le light.'

candy breakin,' n. A social gathering where couples are made up by having them match the broken ends of candy sticks. Each lady, usually, is given a broken stick, the opposite end of which is deposited with others in a suitable receptacle from which it may be drawn by a man.

candy pullin', n. A social gathering where the chief entertainment is the making of molasses candy or taffy.

cant hook, n. A tool used for rolling logs.

chance, n. Doubt. "'Ithout a chance hit'll be a-rainin' ag'in mornin'."

cheer, n. Chair.

cheese, n. Cheese. The term is used, however, as if plural in form. "These cheese air right good."

chill, v. To suffer from ague, or to feel chilly. "I been a-chillin'." "That wind's plumb chill."

chill an' fever doctor, n. phr. Depreciatory reference to a doctor, meaning that his professional ability is limited only to treatment of the simplest diseases.

chimbly, n. Chimney.

chimbly corner laws = customs that have been transmitted from generation to generation until they finally assume the nature of unwritten laws. The same term applies also to unprofessional and usually erroneous interpretations of the statutes.

cheench, n. Bed bug.

choicey, adj. or adv. Particular, choice. "Don't git too choicey." "That meat's right choicey."

chore, v. To do small jobs of routine work, such as milking, cutting wood, feeding stock, etc.

to chore aroun' = to putter about at unimportant work.

chug hole, n. An abrupt depression in a road or highway. Also Chuck hole.

chunk up, v. phr. To renew a fire by throwing together the unburned ends of sticks of chunks of wood.

church house, n. A building in which religious services are conducted.

cipher, v. To scheme, to manipulate, as in negotiating a trade. Cf. *Augur.*

circle saw, n. Circular saw.

clab-board. Cf. *Board, supra.*

clair, v. To clear, as land for cultivation.

adj. Clear.

clatter, n. All at once. "I bust down two wheels at one clatter."

clim, clum, or *clomb,* v. Past tense of Climb.

cluck, adj. Said of a brooding hen. "That ol' hen's cluck." *i. e.,* setting, or with chickens.

come, prep. By a certain time or date. "I'm aimin' on a-gorn come Christmas week."

come aroun,' v. phr. To menstruate.

come by, v. phr. (1) To stop for a brief visit. (2) To inherit. "Come by an' set a-while." "Bill comes by his laziness honest." Also to acquire or to accumulate. "He's come by a right smart o' property these last few years."

come through, v. phr. To discharge an obligation. Especially applicable in a case where repudiation has been threatened.

complected, adj. Pertaining to the complexion. "He's red complected."

conflab, n. A confab, an interview, a conversation.

cood, n. Cud. "She's got a big cood o' wax (chewing gum) in 'er mouth."

cornish, or *carnish,* n. Cornice.

cow brute, n. Any member of the ox family, but specifically a bull.

cow critter, n. Specifically, a bull, though the term may refer to any other member of the ox family. Cf. *Cow brute.*

cow stock, n. Cattle.

cracklin's, n. Meat from which lard has been made.

cracklin' bread, n. Corn bread in which cracklings have been mixed.

cramp, v. To turn the front wheels out of line so a wagon or other vehicle may be backed and turned about.

crap, n. or v. Crop.

to pitch a crap = to plant and cultivate a crop.

crapper, n. An agriculturist. Restricted usually to a tenant grain raiser.

craw dad, n. Cray fish. Also *Craw dab, Craw pappy, Crow dab, Crow dad* and *Crow pappy.*

crawl one's hump, v. phr. To assault.

creen, v. To warp or lean, to fall slowly with a twisting motion.

cribber, n. An animal, specifically a horse, addicted to the habit of gnawing or sucking at the manger or at trees or stumps. Cf. *Stump sucker.*

critter, n. Usually applied to any male animal, especially a bull, which is kept exclusively for breeding purposes. Cf. *Male.*

crope, v. Past tense of Creep.

crowd the mourners, v. phr. To be in a hurry, premature. "Keep ca'm now, an' don't crowd the mourners," *i. e.*, don't be precipitate.

crower, n. A rooster, a cock.

culbert, n. Culvert.

curious, adj. Queer, eccentric, unusual. "He's the curiousest feller I ever seed." "Hit's the curiousest house in the settlement."

cuss fight, n. A violent quarrel, unaccompanied by any other form of assault than angry words.

cut the mustard, v. phr. To meet certain requirements or to discharge certain obligations. "He tried hard enough but he jest couldn't cut the mustard."

D.

dad blame, interjection or expletive. Also *Dad burn, Dad blast, Dad damn, Dad durn, Dad gone, Dad swizzle*, or any of these forms with the prefix Dad. All forms frequently end in 'ed.'

darnick, n. Stone.

dauncy. adj. In poor health. Cf. *Puny*.

dcestrict, n. District.

dianglin', adj. Diagonally.

dīdy, n. Diaper.

dicker, v. or n. Trade, exchange, 'swap.'

dīdo, n. Prank, caper. "Bill's a-cuttin' didoes like a young-un."

dig out, v. phr. To leave precipitately, to depart hastily or in fright.

dinkus, n. Thing. Also *Doodinkus, Doodad, Dinglebob, Jigger, Thingumbob, Gadget*.

div, v. Dived. Also *Dōve*.

den, v. To hibernate, to remain indoors during bad weather. "We-all denned up when the storm come on."

do a thing to, v. phr. Ordinarily used in the negative and meaning severe punishment. "Don't call me a liar er I won't do a thing to you."

do dirt, v. phr. To do something contemptible. "He'll do you dirt."

do proud, v. phr. To distinguish oneself in an undertaking. "He done hisse'f proud in that job."

doin'ses, n. Doings, any form of social gathering. "We-all aim on havin' some doin'ses at our house this evenin'."

dog iron, n. Andiron.

done, p. a. Used with other verbs. "He's done got well." "I've done been over thar." "He's done done his do."

don't guess, v. Don't think. "I don't guess he's a-comin'."

dope, n. (1) Meat gravy. (2) Axle grease.

v. To take medicine. "Dope yourse'f 'ith quinine."

dose, n. Venereal affliction. "Bill got hisse'f a dose."

double shovel, n. A primitive form of one-horse cultivator carrying two shovels or plows.

dōve, v. Cf. *Div*.

down goes his cob-house, v. phr. Failure to realize one's plans. "If I don't have a good crap this year, w'y down goes my cob-house."

drap, v. or n. Drop.

draw an idea, v. phr. To suspect. "I draw a' idee he' harder up 'n he lets on t' be."

dreen, v. or n. Drain.

drinked, v. Drank. Also, tasted. "I got a-holt o' some likker 't drinked right well."

driv, v. Drove.

drool, v. To dribble saliva, to slobber.

drug, v. Dragged.

druthers, n. pl. (Rathers) Preference. "I caint he'p havin' m' druthers."

dry back of his ears, adj. phr. Maturity. "He was a-chawin' long green afore he was dry back o' his ears," *i. e.,* at a very early age.

dry drizzle, n. A light shower of rain.

Duke's mixture, n. A confused mass.

E.

east, n. Yeast.

eetch, v. To itch.

n. The itch.

eediot, n. Idiot.

eench, v. or n. To inch along. "Eench over, John, so's I kin sot down."

ellum, n. Elm. Piss elm, a variety of elm that carries a large amount of sap.

ennominate, p. To nominate.

endurin', adj. During.

et, v. Ate or eaten. "I've done et."

evening, n. The period from noon till dark or 'can'le light.'

ever, adj. Every.

ever what, adv. Whatever. "Ever whut you think'll be alright."

ex, n. Axle, specifically, of a wagon.

eyes bigger than one's mouth, n. phr. Helping oneself to a greater portion of food than one can eat.

F.

fall, v. To fell, as a tree.

fall out, v. phr. To disagree.

fast, adj. Dissolute, as a woman of ill repute.

fault, v. To blame. "Don't fault me fer bein' late."

faunch, v. To rave, to make an outcry against.

favor, v. To resemble. "He favors his pap a right smart." Also to protect. "I favored that foot all I could while hit was sore."

favorite, adj. Favorite.

fer, prep. For or far.

feist, n. Fice. As an adjective, Feisty, meaning irritably facetious or 'snippy.'

fiddle, n. A violin. In the verb form, to play on a violin. 'Thicker 'n fiddlers in hell,' plentiful, in great numbers.

fightin' word, n. An epithet the use of which ordinarily induces a fight. "He called me a fightin' word so's I whanged away an' busted 'im 'ith a rock." The term applies, usually to 'liar' and 'son-of-a-bitch.'

fine haired, adj. Aristocratic, conceited. "He's a-gittin' right fine haired sence he heired that money."

first for'n thing, n. phr. Nothing. "He don't know the first for'n thing 'bout raisin' hogs."

fit, n. A spasm or convulsion, a sudden attack of anger.

v. Past tense of fight. "They fit all over the place."

fitten, adj. Fit, suitable.

fitified, adj. Subject to epilepsy.

fix, v. To prepare, to get ready. "I'm a-fixin' t' go a-huntin'."

flash, n. Flesh.

flat, n. Plug tobacco. "Got ary piece o' flat, Bill?"

fly back, v. phr. To refuse to pull, as a balky animal.

To fly up = to retire for the night.

foalded, v. Foaled. "That colt was foalded las' spring."

forks, n. The point where a road, trail, tree, stream or plant divides into branches. Same as *Crotch* when applied to a tree.

four bits, n. Fifty cents.

fourth o' July, n. phr. A social gathering the object of which is to celebrate Independence Day. "We're aimin' on havin' a Fourth o' July down on the creek."

fotch, v. To fetch. P. t., *Fotched.*

frame, n. A rack on which to haul hay, a hay frame. Or a slatted cover to confine hogs in a wagon, or a 'hog frame.'

free hearted, adj. Liberal, generous.

fresh, n. A freshet or flood.

v. To freshen, as a cow upon dropping a calf.

frier, n. A chicken of frying size.

front room, n. The main room of a dwelling.

fry, n. Fried bacon.

full as a goat, adj. phr. In an advanced stage of intoxication.

full as a tick, adj. phr.. Having eaten to repletion. Ordinarily this and the term shown above are not interchangeable.

full up, adv. phr. Satiated, having reached the limit of endurance. "I'm full up," (with food), "I'm full up 'ith y'r cussin'."

fur, prep. or adv. See *Fer.*

furder, adv. Further.

futher, adv. Same as Furder.

G.

gal, n. A girl. 'Good ol' gal,' familiar reference to a likeable woman, irrespective of her actual age.

gallery, n. Porch.

gallus, n. A suspender.

gallus hill, n. One of the hills of corn used as a support for a shock of fodder.

garden sass, n. Fresh vegetables or small fruit from the garden.

gaum, v. To gum, to smear. Usually followed by 'up.' "I've b'iled sogrums till I'm all gaumed up."

gee, A word of direction addressed to a team, meaning "Turn to the right."

gear, n. Harness.

To gear up an animal = to harness it or to hitch it to a vehicle.

Runnin' gears, those portions of a wagon other than the box or bed.

gentlemens, n. Gentlemen.

gether, v. To gather.

gig, n. A fish spear.

v. To spear a fish, to prod with a pole, to annoy with suggestive remarks or practical jokes.

git a move on, v. phr. To hurry.

git by, v. phr. To escape detection, to accomplish a difficult task.

git one's feet wet, v. phr. To take part in anything after much hesitation.

git off on the wrong foot, v. phr. To blunder.

git through one's head, v. phr. To comprehend.

git back at, v. phr. To retaliate, to get revenge.

give a cent, v. phr. Used either in the affirmative or negative to express lack of concern. "I don't give a cent," or "I give a cent," damn, hang, etc.

give out, v. phr. To change one's mind, as "I've done give out a-gorn." Also to announce. "Has the Deacon give out his text?" Also, to become exhausted. "I'm plumb give out."

give way, v. phr. To play out, to become exhausted. That spring gives way in dry weather."

gladc, n. A rocky (timbered or untimbered) slope.

glaum, n. A snarl, a tangle, a confused mass.

v. To tangle, or to seize or grab all of anything, especially victuals. "Bill glaumed the whole pie."

glaze, v. To strike a glancing blow, or to graze with a blow. Also, to grow glassy, as the eye in death.

go a-hellin', v. phr. To proceed at breakneck speed. "He shore went a-hellin' whenever'n that dog got atter 'im."

go-devil, n. An implement used in laying off several rows across a field at one time. Also a primitive form of sled made from the crotch or 'forks' of a tree.

go gitter, n. Prompt, expert, hardworking. "He's a go gitter when hit comes t' loggin'."

goober, n. Peanut.

goom, n. The gum surrounding the teeth.

go over the road, v. phr. To be sent to jail or prison.

gorn, n. Going. "Hit's good gorn now," *i. e.,* good traveling.

v. Going. "I'm a-gorn home."

gorn some, v. phr. Proceeding rapidly, making great progress.

go up Salt Creek, v. phr. To suffer defeat, as a candidate for office.

go up in the air, v. phr. To become indignant.

gover'ment socks, n. The bare legs, *i. e.,* no socks at all.

grain, v. To abraid slightly, as the skin in shaving. To feed grain, as to stock. "I aint a-grainin' my cows now."

grainery, n. Granary.

granny, n. A midwife, a senile man or woman.

v. To perform the duties of a midwife.

-knot, n. A large pine knot that will burn all or most of a night and thus provide light by which a midwife may work.

-woman, n. A midwife.

grape vine, n. A grain cradle with a peculiarly twisted snath.

grabble, v. To remove potatoes or peanuts from a hill without disturbing the plant.

gravel, v. To embarrass, to humiliate. "Hit shore graveled me when she bawled me out."

gray back, n. A body louse.

great hand, n. Habituated. "He's a great hand fer cussin'."

green, v. To annoy with practical jokes. "The boys was all a-greenin' him about 'is gal."

greener, n. A newcomer, a tenderfoot, one unfamiliar with the work in which he is engaged.

grip, n. A suitcase or satchel. Also a firm hold.

gully washer, n. A heavy fall of rain. Cf. *Dry drizzle.*

H.

hack, n. A light spring wagon.

v. *To hack around* = to drive about in a hack, to ramble around.

To hack ties = to hew them out by hand.

had by, v. phr. To have kept. "I've had this coat by me fer twenty year."

haint, v. Have not. "I haint no money."

hand runnin', adj. phr. In succession. "Hit's been a-rainin' now fer three days, hand runnin'." "I kilt six squirrels, hand runnin'."

hand write, n. Hand writing. "I know his hand write."

hanker, v. To crave. "I been a-hankerin' for fresh feesh."

hankerin', n. A craving.

hant, n. A ghost.

v. To haunt, to become accustomed to or to become habituated to a certain place. Thus, hogs fed continually at one place, 'git hanted thar.'

happen, v. To suffer, as an accident. "Bill happened (usually happent) to a right bad hurt."

happy, adj. Overcome with religious excitement to the extent of hysteria.

hard sleddin', v. phr. Living or doing business under difficulties.

har', n. Harrow. Verb form the same.

harrycane, n. Hurricane.

have it up and down, v. phr. To argue heatedly.

haw, A word of direction to a team meaning "Turn to the left."

haze-nut, n. Hazel nut.

headin', n. Pillow.

heap, adj. A great deal, a large amount.

hee-cup, n. Hiccough. Verb form the same.

heerd, v. Heard. Or, embracing the sound of 'y': Hyeard.

heft, v. To lift a thing in order to estimate its weight.

n. The greater portion, the weight of a thing.

hefty, adj. Weighty, heavy.

heir, v. To inherit. "He heired his pap's farm."

heller, n. A thing or person possessing extreme characteristics. "He's a heller fer work." "That storm was a heller." "This ax shore is a heller."

hender, v. To hinder.

he'p, v. To help. Past tense, *He'pped* or *Holp,* also *Holped.*

het, v. Heated.

Het up = angry.

hicker nut, n. Hickory nut.

hick'ry, n. Speed. "He pulled out at a right good hick'ry."

hide out, v. phr. To disappear hastily, to remain away, to leave through fear. "Them revenuers made us hide out."

hiker, v. To hurry. "He shore did hiker!" Also *Hiket.* "Hiket out o' hyar, now."

hill billy, n. A resident of the hills in contradistinction to an inhabitant of the lowlands or valleys. Also expressive of contempt, or meaning ignorant.

hip, to have on the, v. phr. To carry liquor or a concealed weapon. "Bill's got suthin' on 'is hip that drinks right well." "I'd 'a' busted 'im one but I was afeerd he mought have suthin' on 'is hip."

h'ist, v. To hoist. Also a word of command to a milch cow directing her to step back slightly so her udder may be reached more conveniently.

hisse'f, n. Himself.

hit, n. It.

v. To produce fruit, to yield. "The apples didn't hit this year."

hit the hike, v. phr. To depart.

hockey, n. Dung.

v. To evacuate the bowels, applicable chiefly to that action on the part of a child.

hog eyed, adj. The facial expression resulting from looking upward and sidewise without turning the head.

hog molly, n. A species of fish, a kind of sucker.

holler, v. To shout, to protest vehemently.

n. A hollow, a narrow valley.

adj. Hollow.

holler horn, n. A supposed disease of cattle wherein portions of the bone in the tail are said to rot away. The customary treatment is to split the skin of the tail just above the bush and to fill the incision with salt and pepper and turpentine and then bandage the wound tightly.

holp, v. See *He'p*.

holt, n. A hold or grip, an advantage.

honey, a term of endearment usually though not always restricted to children. (*)

hongry, adj. Hungry.

hoorah, int. Hurry! shouted encouragement to hunting dogs. "Hoorah, boys! Hoorah!" Also, excited confusion. "Whut's all the hoorah about?"

horn, v. To gore.

horn in, v. phr. To interrupt a conversation.

horny, adj. Passionate, sensual, carnal minded. Cf. *Cagey*.

horse backer, n. One who travels on horse.

horse stock, n. Horses and mules of any age or sex.

hove, v. Heaved.

how come?, adv. phr. How or why? "How come that wagon broke down?" "How come you-all aint a-gorn?"

howdy, How do you do?

hull, adj. Whole. Also the shell or outer husk of a nut, the pod of a bean or pea, or, in the verb form to remove these. Also a cartridge, the shell of a turtle, or a dilapidated building.

hump, v. To hurry. "I'll shore have t' hump m'se'f if I git thar on time."

hunker down, v. phr. To squat on the heels. Also Hunker up. "Bill sot thar all hunkered up." '*Down on his hunkers*,' squatted.

hyar, adv. Here, at this place.

hyeard or *hyearn*, v. Heard. See *Heerd*.

I.

In such words as *fire, hire, tire, wire, liar, briar, etc.*, is sounded as 'ah'; in *pinch, itch, idiot* and *inch*, as 'ee' but does not have this sound in such words as *pitch* and *ditch*.

ingern, n. Onion.

ill, adj. Vicious, ill tempered. "He ac's mighty ill."

in the lead, prep. phr. The position of the left-hand animal in a two-horse team as observed from the rear, or of the foremost animals in a team of two or more pairs. Also, *ahead of*, as the foremost hound in a running pack.

ile, n. or v. Oil.

J.

jag, n. A small load. "I hauled up a jag o' wood." Seldom expresses intoxication as in certain other localities.

jagger, n. Any small, sharp-pointed object or implement. Applicable chiefly to thorns or briars.

janders, n. Jaundice. '*Yaller janders*', yellow jaundice.

(*) The proprietress of the Pineville Central Telephone office, an old and highly esteemed resident of this locality, has been known to apply it indiscriminately to neighbors and strangers alike.

jar, v. To wrangle, to quarrel, to argue. Also *Jower.*

jedge, n. or v. Judge. Also, a droll person. "He shore is a jedge" (or clown). "I made a jedge o' m'se'f," *i. e.,* made a fool of myself.

Jesus Christ, an expletive or exclamation common to both men and women and considered by neither as in any wise profane.

Jeem's river, an exclamation indicating great surprise.

jim cracks, n. Knick knacks, a collection of small miscellaneous ornaments.

jim dandy, n. An unusually fine thing. "That was a jim dandy meal."

jine, v. To join.

j'int o' meat, n. phr. A ham or shoulder, usually of a hog.

j'int powder, n. Literally, joint powder. Giant powder or dynamite.

jist or *jest,* adv. Just.

j'ist, n. Joist.

job, v. To jab.

jobber, n. Anything that may be used for 'jobbing' or jabbing. A pointed steel bar used in punching holes in the ground for posts, or a 'post hole jobber.'

John Hancock, n. Signature.

jokey, adj. Jocular, fun loving, given to practical jokes.

jower, v. See *Jar.*

juberous, adj. Doubtful, fearful. "I'm juber'us 'bout a-gorn in thar."

jug, n. A jail or other prison.

v. To imprison.

jump out, v. phr. To take to task, to call to account. "I jumped 'im out fer talkin' about me."

jumpin' Jesus, an exclamation of great surprise.

june along, v. phr. To hasten.

To come a-junin' = to come hastily.

K.

kag or *kaig,* n. Keg.

To taste o' the kag = to become monotonous.

keen, adj. Anxious, enthusiastic, unusually fine. "I'm keen t' hyear how th' 'lection went." "Bill's plumb keen about huntin'." "I claim that's a purty keen crap o' corn."

keer, n. or v. Care.

ketch, n. or v. Catch.

kin, adj. or noun. Related to. "Is he kin t' you-all?" Also, Can. "Kin we come in?"

kin folks, n. Relatives.

kiver, n. or v. Cover.

to cut an' kiver = to operate a turning plow in such a manner that a ridge of unbroken ground is covered over with loose dirt, a custom frequently resorted to when the plowman is working hurriedly.

kivers, n. Bed clothing.

knock the tar out of, or *knock the God out of,* v. phr. To beat senseless.

L.

land on, v. phr. To attack, to assault.

law, v. To enter into litigation. "They're a-lawin' over the will." Also an exclamation.

n. An officer. "Yander comes the law."

lay-bell, v. To label. "I lay-belled all o' my canned fruit."

lay by, v. phr. To complete the cultivation of a crop.

down, v. phr. To retire for sleep.

off, v. phr. To plow furrows in which grain is to be planted by hand.

out, v. phr. To remain away intentionally, as from a public gathering.

way, v. To waylay, to attack from ambush.

lag or *laig*, n. or v. Leg. "I broke m' lag."

v. To intercede for, to beg or plead for another, to offer moral support, as to a candidate for office. "I'll lag fer you," *i. e.*, I'll work for you.

lane, n. A stretch of road lying between parallel fences.

larrupin', adj. Exceeding pleasant to taste. See *Lickum*. As a noun, a severe whipping. Verb form, *Larrup*, to whip.

lasty, adj. Durable, substantial, permanent.

learn, v. To teach. "You caint learn him nothin'."

learnt, v. Learned.

least, adj. Diminutive. Also, as a comparative, smaller or smallest. "They's been the least bad weather this winter 't I ever seed." "The least mule o' that span aint fitten fer nothin'." "All o' my hogs but the least-uns is a-doin' right well."

leetle, adj. Little.

leever, n. Lever.

lep, v. Leaped. Seldom used, 'jumped' being employed instead.

license, n. Used as if plural in form. "Them license aint no good fer they aint signed up." Cf. *Cheese, Molasses*.

lickum, adj. Very palatable. See *Larrupin*.

lie-bill, n. Libel. "He signed a lie-bill," *i. e.*, made a written retraction and confessed therein that his previous statement was false.

likkety-whoop, adv. Rapidly and more or less at random. "He went down the road likkety whoop." Also *likkety-hell*, *likkety-rip*, *likkety-damn*, *likkety-scoot*, etc.

light, n. Daylight.

v. To dismount. "Light, stranger, an' come in."

into, v. phr. To attack by words or blows. See *Land on*.

lights, n. The lungs of an animal. Also, window panes.

lit, v. Lighted, or alighted.

loft, n. The upper story of a house or barn.

long green, n. Home grown tobacco.

look down one's nose, v. phr. To look sorrowful, discouraged or ashamed.

lope, v. To gallop.

lot, n. or v. A small enclosure. "Lot the cows to-night." "Put your mule in the lot."

love, v. To fondle or caress. "Jim's a-lovin' his ol' 'oman."

louse around, v. phr. To loiter about aimlessly. Also, *Laze around.*

low, adj. Short of stature. "He's a low, fat feller."

M.

mail rider, n. A mail carrier. Applicable to one who carries mail on a horse.

make, v. To mature, to produce grain or fruit. "Hit's too dry fer corn t' make."

make out, v. phr. To manage, to accomplish, to succeed. "I fin'ly made out t' git hyar."

make over, v. phr. To greet with effusive and demonstrative affection. "They shore did make over me when I driv up."

make up with, v. phr. To adjust a quarrel.

male, n. Any male animal kept for breding purposes. Bull, boar, stallion and jack are not used in mixed company, although buck (a male sheep or goat) and crower (rooster) are not considered objectionable.

mam, n. Used in speaking to or of mother. Also used in addressing a woman, or in indicating that what she has said has not been understood. "Tell Mam t' come hyar." "Mam?" "Yes, Mam."

mammy, n. Mother. Applicable also to the lower animals. Also *Mommy.*

mash, n. or v. Mesh.

mast, n. Acorns and other nuts upon which hogs and cattle feed, but especially applicable to acorns.

master, adj. Expert, superlative. "He's the masterest worker in the settlement." "Hit shore was a master storm."

me, n. Mine, my property, that which belongs to me. "Air you-all a-runnin' y'r cattle on me?"

medder, n. Meadow.

meet up with, v. phr. To meet, to be introduced, to become acquainted with. "Has you-uns ever met up afore?"

middlin', n. A side of meat, bacon.

mighty, adv. or adj. Strong, convincing. A mighty feller, a mighty sick baby, a mighty talker.

mighty nigh, adv. Almost, very near. "I'm mighty nigh thar."

mild, n. Mile.

mill tails o' hell, adv. phr. Swiftly, violently. "The creek's a-runnin' like the mill tails o' hell."

mind, n. Attention. "He wouldn't give no mind to me."

v. To remember. "I mind 'im when he was jist a sprout of a boy."

To attend to or take care of. "Mary, you mind the baby."

To remind. "Be shore 'n' mind me o' what I said."

Tempted. "I'm minded t' break y'r neck." Or, I'm a mind t' break y'r neck."

misery, n. A pain. "He had a misery in his side."

misput, v. To misplace. "I misput that letter."

mix, v. To quarrel, or to fight.

mix it, v. To attack. "Shet up, so's he wont mix it 'ith you."

mizzle, n. Falling mist, a light rain. Cf. *Dry drizzle.*

molasses, n. Molasses. Always spoken of as if plural form. "How many molasses did you-all git?" Cf. *Cheese, License.*

mought; v. Might. "I mought be able t' go."

mought 'a' could, v. Might have been able. "I mought 'a' could if I'd 'a' wanted to."

mouth, v. To examine a horse's teeth in ascertaining its age. Also *Tooth,* used as a verb.

mull, v. To ponder over, to cogitate upon. "I'll mull the thing over."

mush melon, n. Musk melon.

mush rat, n. Musk rat.

N.

nail tie, n. The rib to which upright boxing of a building is nailed.

narrers, n. A stretch of narrow road, specifically along a steep slope with a stream below and a cliff or 'bluff' above.

nary, adj. Not one. "I haint nary cent." More emphatic than Ary, q. v., and unlike the latter, primarily indicates the negative.

near side, n. The left side of an animal.

near, adj. Stingy.

nearder, adv. Nearer.

neardest, adv. Nearest. "He come the neardest drown'din' I ever seed."

neighbor with, v. phr. To be neighborly. "Him an' me neighbored t'gether."

new groun,' n. A recently cleared tract of land.

-plow, n. See *Bull tongue.*

nicker, n. or v. Whinny. Also *Whicker.*

nigh, adv. or adj. Near or nearly. "Hit's mighty nigh noon."

-side, n. The left side or near side. Cf. *Off* and *Off side.*

noble, adj. Extra fine. "This is noble spring o' water."

noodle, v. To catch fish with the bare hand or with a long-handled barbed hook.

noodlin' hook, n. A long-handled, barbed hook used for catching fish.

norate, v. To make public by word of mouth. Applicable chiefly to the spreading of unpleasant or depreciatory rumors of a personal nature.

no count, adj. Of no account, worthless, lazy, shiftless, not respectable.

norther, n. A period of cold, blustery weather, preceded usually by strong north winds. Also a person from the north.

no sich of a damn' thing, indignant denial.

nurly, adj. Gnarled, twisted, tough, cross-grained, ill tempered, viciously inclined, irritable.

nuss, v. To nurse or take care of or amuse a child. "He nussed the young-un to sleep."

O.

off side, n. The right side of an animal.

ol' place, or *ol' field,* n. One that has changed ownership or been abandoned. Thus, 'the Jones ol' place' may mean either that the Jones farm has been sold or that the fields are no longer cultivated. The designating word in such cases always precedes 'ol'.'

on, prep. Of, as 'heerd on'; Also used the same as the prefix 'um,' as 'oncertain,' 'on-tie,' 'on-done,' etc.

on aidge, adj. phr. Irritable, irascible, ill tempered.

onliest, adj. Only. "That's the onliest ax I got."

on the beat, adj. phr. Dishonest.

on the county, adj. phr. Dependent upon charity.

on the borry, adj. phr. Continually borrowing.

on the grunt, adj. phr. Slightly indisposed. Inclined to complain.

on the bum, adj. phr. Damaged, out of repair, functionless.

on the level, adj. phr. Honest, reliable, true.

on the lift, adj. phr. Unable to arise because of illness or weakness.

on the mend, adj. phr. Improving, convalescent.

on the git, adj phr. Penurious, stingy, grasping.

on the peck, adj. phr. Pugnaciously inclined.

on the guess, adj. phr. Doubtful, wondering, fearful.

open, v. To give tongue, to bay, as a hound.

open one's eyes, v. phr. To surprise.

open one's head, v. phr. To speak.

open one's heart, v. phr. To be generous.

orn'ry, adj. Worthless, shiftless, lazy. Cf. *No count.*

orphant, n. Orphan.

ort, v. Ought.

ortuh, ought to.

overhauls, n. Overalls.

out, n. Result. "He made a pore out o' farmin'."

out done, adj. Beaten, overcome, humiliated, embarrassed.

out duganed, adj. or v. Circumvented by questionable means. "He jest plumb out duganed me." "I felt plumb out duganed."

over 'n' above, adj. In excess of. "I made a dollar a day over 'n' above my expenses."

P.

pack, n. A large number, especially of dogs. A set of playing cards.
v. To carry, especially a firearm. "He's a-packin' a gun."

painter, n. Panther.

palin', n. Paling.

pallet, n. A quilt or blanket spread down on the floor.

pa'm, n. Palm.

pap, n. Father. Also, *Pappy* and *Poppy.*

passel, n. Parcel. Also, a large number, as a 'passel o' people.'

pass a word or two, v. phr. To hold a short conversation.

pass the time o' day, v. phr. To greet. See above.

peench, v. or n. Pinch.

peerch, n. A perch, also a species of fish. Also used in verb form.

peert, adj. Lively, animated, cheerful, well, in excellent health, apt, precocious. "That's a right peert baby." Or, if the child is recovering from an illness, "Hit's a-feelin' a right smart peerter now."

peg out, v. phr. To become exhausted, to die.

pen, n. Penitentiary.

pepmint, n. Peppermint.

perky, adj. Egotistical, affected. "He's the perkiest man in town."

peth, n. Pith.

petty jury, n. Petit jury. Also, *Petty larceny.*

piece, n. A short distance. "He went down the big road a piece."

To have, or to get, a piece = to have sexual intercourse.

pieded, adj. Pied, spotted. "She's a pieded cow."

pile out, v. phr. To arise early and go to work.

p'int, n. or v. Point.

pitch a crap, v. phr. To plant and cultivate a crop. See *Crapper.*

pi'ture, n. Picture.

pizen, n. or v. Poison.

plague, v. To embarrass, to annoy, to confuse.

plat, v. To plait or braid, as the hair or strips of bark.

play party, n. A social gathering where the chief entertainment is the playing of games.

play whaley, v. phr. To make a failure. "He played whaley a-farmin'."

plumb, adv. Completely. May be used to modify any adjective.

poke, n. A small sack or bag.

poke salat, n. A salad made from the poke weed. Greens.

pone, n. Corn bread.

pooch, v. To distend or to swell, as an abscess. Generally followed with 'out.'

pop-paw, n. Papaw.

pore, v. To pour.

adj. Poor.

pore toot, n. A shiftless, lazy person.

porely, adv. In bad health. "My man's mighty porely."

portly, adj. Large, handsome. The word has no particular reference to corpulence or dignity.

poverty, n. Lack of feed. "That hog died f'm poverty."

power, n. Efficiency, quantity. "He's a power of a talker." "They's been a power o' rain lately."

prepozely, adv. Intentionally, purposely.

prides, n. The privates, the reproductive organs.

prize, n. or v. Pry, meaning to lift with a lever.

-pole, n. A lever.

proud, adj. Glad, pleased, happy. "I'd be proud t' go."

To cut proud = to castrate improperly so that passion is not eliminated.

psa'm, n. Psalm.

pulley bone, n. The wish bone of a fowl.

pummies, n. Pumice. Always used as if plural in form. "I've got t burn up them pummies." Cf. *Cheese, Molasses, License.*

puny, v. or adj. Sickly, weakly, undeveloped, under size. Cf. *Dauncy.*

To puny around = to go about in a dull, lifeless, languid way.

purty lookin', adj. Expressive of a ridiculous appearance. "Now aint you-all a purty lookin' thing!"

put one's name in the pot, v. phr. To provide a meal for an extra person. "Don't fergit t' put my name in the pot fer I'll shore be over fer dinner."

Q.

quair, adj. Queer.

quairy, n. Quarry. Also used in the verb form.

qua'my, adj. Qualmy.

quile, v. To coil. "The snake was all quiled up." Also to quiet down or submit, as a querulous child. "You young-uns quile down now an' behave y'r se'ves."

quoto, n. Quota.

R.

rabbit gum, n. A box or a length of hollow log used in capturing rabbits and other small game alive.

rag, n. or v. Dance.

ragger, n. One who dances.

raggin' fool, n. An enthusiastic dancer.

rag tune, n. Dance music.

rale, adj. Real.

rambutt, v. To seize a person by his arms and legs and to ram his buttock forcibly against a tree or post.

rampooch, v. Same as above.

rangy, adj. Poor, in thin flesh.

rank, n. or v. See *Rick.*

rare, v. To rear on the hind legs, to indulge in loud, angry words.

rattlesnake Jersey, n. Any brindle member of the ox family, a scrubby cow or one of low grade.

razor back, n. A thin, scrawny, under size hog.

reckon, v. To assume or suppose. Cf. *'Low.* Also used in an idiomatic form of query. "Reckon he'll come?" "Reckon who he is?" "Reckon how old he is?"

red, v. To rid. To clean up as 'to red up a room.'

red worm, n. Fish worm, angle worm, earth worm.

residenter, n. An old settler.

resk, v. To chance. "I'll resk 'im a-comin'." To risk.

retch, v Reached.

ribbon, n. A bridle rein, or a line.

rick, n. or v. Wood, cut any length, arranged uniformly in a pile eight feet long and four feet high. "I ricked up two ranks o' wood."

ricollect, v. Recollect.

rid, v. Rode.

riffle, n. A shallow place in a stream.

v. To shuffle, as a set of playing cards.

rig, n. A light wagon or carriage, together with a team.

v. To deride. See *Gig.*

right, adv. Very. "I'm a-feelin' right well."

right smart, A great deal, a large amount. Not used with reference to a large number of individual things or objects. 'A right smart of rain or of dry weather or of money or of grain, etc., ' but not 'a right smart of horses,' etc.

rightly, adv. Exactly, precisely. "I caint rightly say." "I don't rightly know."

rile, v. To roil, to incite to anger.

rim, v. To be desirous of sexual intercourse, wanting to be bred. Said especially of sows.

rimmin', The felloes of a wheel.

rise, n. A flood or freshet. "The creek's on a rise."

To get a rise out of = to incite vehement or angry protest.

risin', n. A boil, an abscess.

riz, v. Raised, or arose. "He riz up in bed an' shore rose hell when Doc set 'is arm."

roar, n. or v. Boisterous protest.

roastin' year, n. Roasting ear, green corn on the cob.

rock, v. To attack with stones. "I rocked 'im off o' the place."

rock house, n. A deep shelter beneath an overhanging cliff.

rogue, n. Any breachy animal. See *Breachy.*

rookus, n. Ruckus, an altercation.

root cellar, n. An underground storage room for vegetables.

rose, v. See *Riz.*

rosum, n. Resin.

rubbage, n. Rubbish.

ruint, v. Ruined. "Dry weather like to 'a' ruint me."

ruk, v. Raked.

run, n. A series, a succession. "I had a run o' good logs."

run a sandy over, v. phr. To mislead by trickery.

rusty, adj. Old, uncouth, unkempt, shaggy, unshaven.

ruther, adv. Rather. Cf. *Druthers.*

S.

sahr'l, adj. Sorrel.

salat, n. Salad, greens.

sand, don't know enough to pound sand in a rat hole, v. phr. Stupid. Also, *Don't know enough to pound akerns in a woodpecker hole.*

sand, no sand in his craw, Nerveless, fearful, cowardly.

santy fay, n. Centiped.

sarvice berry, n. Service berry.

say so, n. Authority. "I aint got no say so 'bout the deal."

scabbard, n. Holster, any leather sheath for a weapon.

scald, n. Satisfactory accomplishment. "I got a good scald on that job."

scrunch, v. To crunch or mash.

scrooch, or *scrouch,* v. To crouch. Cf. *Hunker.*

scoop board, n. A broad board used to facilitate the unloading of grain from a wagon.

scrd, v. Saw.

se'f, n. Self.

sence, adv. Since.

set, v. (1) To sit. (2) To court. "Bill's a-settin' Mary."

To go set, in a game at cards = to fail to secure the points bid.

n. A site, as for a mill.

set stakes to see if he's a-movin', v. phr. Said of a slow, indolent person.

settlement, n. Neighborhood, locality.

seven hundred dollars, adv. phr. Extraordinarily. "I'm sicker 'n seven hunderd dollars." "Hit snowed like seven hunderd dollars."

shack, n. A small cabin or building.

shade, n. A slight degree. "Hit's a shade too big."

shake, n. A split shingle. See *Board.*

v. to suffer from ague.

shakes, n. The ague.

shet, v. To shut.

To git shet of = to be rid of.

sheer, n. or v. Share.

sheer crapper, n. A tenant farmer who pays rent with a certain share of his products.

shim, n. or v. Thin strips or wedges used in filling out or raising foundation timbers, etc.

To shim out = to fill out a low place in the face of a timber with a thin strip.

shindig, n. A carousal, a dance.

shoe mouth deep, adj. phr. To a depth equal to the height of an ordinary shoe, as in mud or snow.

shoot it into one, v. phr. To berate, to answer an argument with strong language.

shoot one's wad, v. phr. To express an opinion, to do what is to be done.

shore, adv. Or adj. Sure or surely. Shorely.

shot to pieces, v. phr. Dilapidated.

should, aux. v. In indirect discourse, supposedly. " 'Cordin' to Bill, Sam sh'd 'a' said I was a liar."

shuk, v. Shook.

sich, adv. Such. Also *Sech.*

side, v. To accompany. "If he wants a pardner I'll side 'im."

side an' side, adv. phr. Side by side. Also, *Side by each.*

sideburns, n. Burnsides.

side road, n. A secondary road.

side room, n. An additional room built against a cabin.

sight, n. An unusual occurrence. "That house shore is a sight." "Hit was a plumb sight t' look at."

sight unseen, adv. phr. To trade or exchange commodities without first seeing what is offered in exchange. Also, *Unsight, unseen.*

sile, v. or n. Soil.

since the hogs et up m' brother, adv. phr. A very long time. Also *'Since Heck was a pup.'*

singin,' n. A social gathering where the chief form of entertainment is the singing of hymns.

six bits, n. Seventy-five cents.

skace, adj. Scarce.

skeer, v. or n. Scarce. Past tense, Skeert.

skelp, v. or n. Scalp. Also, *Ske'p.*

To skelp weeds = to cut them off at the surface of the earth.

skift, n. A long, narrow, flat-bottomed boat, a light fall of snow.

skin, v. To drive, as a team. "John's a-skinnin' mules now."

skun, v. Skinned.

slam, v. To strike violently. Cf. *Bust, Whang, Belt.*

slash, v. To spill, to splash over. Also, *Slosh.* "Some o' the water slashed out o' the bucket."

n. Refuse resulting from logging operations; a jungle.

sleight, n. Deftness, expertness, a certain manner of manipulation.

slink, v. To abort. "My cow slunk her calf."

smiley, adv. or adj. Smiling. "He's mighty smiley." "He's a smiley feller."

snag, v. To tear, as on briars or barbed wire.

snuk, v. Sneaked.

sock, v. To thrust into, to strike violently. "I socked him one."

sogrums, n. Sorghum. Always used as if plural in form.

sooner, adv. Rather. "I'd sooner not go."

sop, n. A mixture of butter or grease and molasses. The word sometimes refers to gravy.

sorrow, adv. The written form of *Sorry.*

sorry, adj. Of a poor grade. "He's a sorry farmer." "That's a sorry calf."

sorter, or *sortuh,* Sort of. "I'm sortuh puny."

sot, v. Past tense of sit or set. Also expressive of stubbornness. "He's mighty sot in his ways."

sow belly, n. Bacon.

sow bug, n Cock roach.

spark, v. To court. See *Set.*

spell, n. A period of time.

v. To make a ludicrous blunder, to relieve. Past tense, *Spelt.*

sp'il, v. To spoil. Past tense, *Spi'lt.*

spile, n. A small tube made by removing the pith of elder or sumac or similar woods.

spilt, v. Spilled.

spoon victuals, n. Soft foods, as for a young child or for an invalid.

spring, v. To increase in girth as the end of pregnancy approaches.

spring branch, n. The stream flowing from a spring.

springer, n. An animal about to give birth to young, especially a heifer.

spunk, n. Rotten wood.

spunky, adj. Belligerent.

To spunk up = to resent. Also, decayed or rotten, as wood.

squaller, n. A whistle made from a straw or from the stem of a pumpkin or squash.

squamish, adv. Nauseating. Entertaining vague doubts about the propriety of doing a certain thing.

squench, v. To quench. Also, *Squinch.*

squinch, v. To squint, as the eyes.

squole, v. Squealed.

squoze, v. Squeezed.

stable horse, n. A stallion kept for breeding purposes.

stand-in, n. In preferred standing. "He's got a stand-in 'ith the boss."

sticks, n. Standing timber. "We live in the sticks."

steeple, n. Staple.

stiddy, adj. Steady. Also, *Studdy.*

stingin' lizard, n. Scorpion.

stob, n. A short post or stake. v. To stab or jab with a stick.

stobber, n. Any sharp-pointed instrument used in punching holes.

stomp, v. To stamp.

stop in, v. phr. To stop, in passing, for a short visit.

store boughten, adj. That which has been purchased from a merchant

strenth, n. Strength.

study, v. To ponder, to cogitate over a problem.

stump sucker, n. See *Cribber.*

sull, v. To grow sullen, to refuse to talk. Also to balk, as a draft animal.

suthin' er other, n. phr. Something or other.

suthin' tur'ble, adv. phr. Exceedingly. "Hit graveled me suthin' tur'ble.

swap, n. or v. Trade, exchange.

swag, n. Low ground, usually wet. v. To sag.

swale, n. Low, swampy land.

swinge, v. To singe.

swingle tree, n. Singletree or whiffletree.

swivel, v. To shrivel.

sympathy, v. To sympathize with. "I sympathy him f'r his troubles."

syph, n. Syphilis.

T.

tags, n. Rough, soiled locks of hair or wool.

tail up, v. phr. To lift an animal or to assist it in rising by seizing it by the tail.

To git his tail up = to become indignant or angry.

taken, v. Took. "I done taken the book home."

take a fall out of, v. phr. To convince by force, to defeat, to subdue.

take on' v. phr. To mourn or grieve. "He tuk on suthin' awful when she died."

take out, v. phr. To quit work. Literally, to take the team out of the field.

take the studs, v. phr. To balk or refuse to obey, as an animal. To become stubborn or obstinate, as a person.

take water, v. phr. To retreat, to retract a statement.

target, n. A small caliber rifle.

thar, adj. There, in that place.

that-away, adv. That way, in that manner, in that direction.

think a sight of, v. phr. To esteem highly, to like very much.

this-away, adv. This way, in this manner, in this direction.

tight, adj. Stingy, intoxicated.

tie whacker, n. A tie maker.

till yit, adv. Yet. "He aint come till yit."

titty, n. Pap. "Mammy, give that young-un some titty," *i. e.,* let it nurse.

to-do, n. A disturbance, a celebration, a public gathering.

to be took, v. phr. To die, to be captured, as a criminal.

tol'able, adv. Tolerable, in fair health. "I'm a-feelin' jist tol'able."

tole, v. To entice. "Tole up the hogs" (by feeding or calling them).

t'morrow week, n. phr. A week from to-morrow.

torn downdest, adj. Superlative. "He's the torn downdest fool on airth."

tote, v. To carry. Less frequently used than Pack.

touchous, adj. Tender, sensitive, fractious. "My bile's right touchous." "That mule shore is touchous."

tourister, n. A tourist.

track, v. To carry on the shoes, as mud or dust. Applicable also to the action of the rear wheels of a vehicle in following the path of the front ones.

trantler, n. Tarantula.

tree dog, n. Any dog that barks when his quarry has been brought to bay.

truck, n. Relations, dealings, intercourse. "I wont have no truck 'ith a feller like him."

try it on, v. phr. A truculent dare. "If you think you kin ride me w'y jist try it on oncet."

tumble, adj. Terrible, unusual, extraordinary. "He's a turble worker."

turn, n. A grist of grain. "I shelled a turn o' corn," *i. e.,* enough for one grinding.

tush, n. Tusk.

twister, n. A steel plow shovel equipped with a wing at one side.

twitch, n. A small rope to be twisted about a horse's upper lip to aid in controlling him.

two bits, n. Twenty-five cents.

U.

unhook, v. To unhitch a team.

V.

veal, v. To butcher a young calf. "I'm aimin' on vealin' that calf."

W.

wade into, v. phr. To attack, to assault violently.

wait on, v. phr. To wait for. "Don't wait on me." To take care of a sick person. To court. "Bill's a-waitin' on Mary." See *Spark, Set.*

war, v. Was. Seldom used by the present generation.

warnut, n. Walnut.

wax, n. Chewing gum.

we-all, n. We. Also *We-alls.*

weather, v. To storm. "Hit'll prob'ly weather ag'in mornin'."

weathers, n. An animal withers.

weepon, n. Weapon.

went with, v. phr. Became of or happened to. "What went 'ith that corn?"

we-uns, n. We. See *We-all.*

whang, n. Lace leather.

v. To strike violently. Cf. *Bat, Belt, Bust.*

which, interrog. What did you say?

which-away, adv. Which way? How? In what direction?

whicker, v. To neigh softly. See *Nicker.*

whicker bill, n. Mouth. "Shet y'r whicker bill."

white mule, n. 'Moonshine' liquor, or illegally manufactured whiskey.

whittle stick, n. Any piece of wood to be whittled on in idle moments.

whole hell's slough, n. phr. In great quantities. "They's a whole hell's slough o' persimmons down thar in the hollar." See *Any God's amount.*

whoopity scoot, adv. See *Likkety whoop.*

whur, adv. Where.

whut, pro. What.

whuther, conj. Whether. Also *Whe'r.*

whup, v. To whip.

widder, n. Widow.

-man, Widower.

winder, n. Window.

withy, adj. Tough, wiry, vigorous. "He's a withy feller."

woods colt, n. An illegitimate child.

woman, n. Wife. Frequently 'Oman.

work brickle, adj. Anxious to work.

work outna crop, v. phr. To cultivate or weed or otherwise care for it.

worm fence, n. A zig-zag fence made of split rails.

wrench, v. To rinse.

writ, v. Wrote.

writin's, n. Legal documents, a written agreement. "Put that in writin's." "I've done got writin's on him."

written, v. Wrote. "I written him a letter."

Y.

yaller, adj. Yellow.

n. The yolk of an egg.

yaller janders, n. Yellow jaundice.

yan, adj. Yon, that. "Han' me yan ax."

yan-away, adv. Yonder.

yander, adv. Yonder. "He went yander right now!" *i. e.,* disappeared in haste.

year, n. Ear. "I pulled his year."

-mark, Earmark.

Also plural form. "I've knowed him forty year."

yearlin', n. A child or an animal one year old. A 'long' or a 'short' yearlin' is one more or less than a year old, respectively.

yip, v. To yelp. Also *Ye'p.*

yoe, n. A ewe.

you-all, n. You. Also *You-alls* and *You-uns.*

young-un, n. A youngster, a child.

you-uns, n. See *You-all.*

yowl, v. To howl, To cry out.

JAY L. B. TAYLOR.

McDonald Co., Missouri.

SPELLING-MANIPULATION AND PRESENT-DAY ADVERTISING.

Manipulated spelling has played a rôle for some time as a device to catch the eye in advertising; but it has never loomed so prominently nor been so thrust upon the public attention as at present. The tendency toward novelty of spelling has gained momentum in the last few years. It is now a stock recourse in the coinage of trade names and in popular advertising. It takes its place alongside blends or amalgamations, hyphenations, shortenings and extensions, words built from initials, and other ingenuities having current popularity in commercial linguistics. Perhaps the tendency has derived part of its momentum from the simplified spelling movement and from the new interest in phonetic transcription of words. The legacy to the standard language of the agitation for spelling reform is not yet very marked; but its influence upon the language of advertising and the coinage of trade-names is unmistakable. Or it may be that our audacities of spelling are merely a phase of the general "jazzing" (as critics call it) of language, as well as of music, manners, and morals, consequent upon the war. With the fading of awe for formalities and conventions in general, awe for the established forms of words has faded also.

There is probably valid psychological ground for the employment of curious spellings by an advertiser. A normal passer-by or reader of advertisements might let his eyes linger over the unfamiliar appearance of familiar words when, if the words looked as usual, he might not give them a second glance. Re-spellings or spelling-perversions that in an earlier or more dignified period might have repelled observers and hindered sales now bring returns. Some few enterprising innovators began to juggle words to win attention for their articles of trade; then, once the trail was blazed, others followed. The launchers, for example, of "Uneeda" or "Takhoma" biscuit, or of "Phiteezi" or "E. Z. Walker" shoes, have had many successors. In these days, when new words are needed for popular commercial purposes, the manipulation of familiar words in striking ways is a device not to be overlooked by those wishing names that will "take." The time has passed when new trade-names were coined, as a rule, in orthodox ways from Greek and Latin roots.

When I made a short study, some ten years ago, of word-coinage and trade-names,[1] intentional misspellings formed a group of somewhat minor importance as an advertising device. At the present time, too many such spellings meet the eye to be recorded. Makers of paints, household utensils, automobile parts or equipment, articles of apparel, and the like, rely upon spelling manipulation as a primary device when advertising their wares.

In the following pages an endeavor is made to exhibit the leading tendencies and to distinguish classes, in spelling-manipulation for advertising purposes. There is no attempt to make the citation of material exhaustive; yet the examples included will give an idea of the relative popularity of the classes they illustrate. It is not wholly improbable that some of the re-spellings with which the public is now being familiarized by advertising—for example the increased use of *k* and the substitution of *-ite* for *-ight*—may eventually affect the accepted usage of the standard language. The influencing of the language of advertising by the simplified or phonetic spelling movements seems pretty clear; and it is a possibility to be borne in mind that the language of advertising may, in its turn, have influence upon the standard language. Many decades from now, it may be of interest to determine whether this reflex influence of the spelling reform movement (if there be such) did not prove to be greater than was its direct influence when the movement was at its height.

I. Misspelling for Alliteration

This has been liked for a comparatively long time and is still a favorite device, although its days of relative monopoly are over. Alliteration does not have the same degree of interest that it had when Swinburne's liking for it was given conspicuous discussion in newspapers and periodicals, or when journalists sought to achieve it at all costs in their headlines. Many readers may remember when the pages of the daily papers headlined a hanging as "Jerked to Jesus," or a murder in an Italian quarter as "Daring Devilish Dagoes Deal Death." The waning of alliteration as a journalistic device, through over-usage, has usually been attributed to P. T. Barnum's press agent, Richard

[1] "Word-Coinage and Modern Trade-Names," *Dialect Notes*, 1913.

F. Hamilton, who worked the device to its limit of eloquence and impressiveness, and finally to its death. The practice of supplying striking alliterative sub-titles still lingers in circus posters and circus handbills.

Examples show that the letter *k* has a monopoly at present, in the alliterative language of commerce. In circus posters, the consonants *d* and *n* were favorites also; and words were not re-spelled for the sake of alliteration but were left in their standard forms.

Kars Kleaned Klean. We Klean Klothes Klean. Kopper Kettle Klub Cigars. Keen Kutter Kutlery. Kumback Koffee. Kamp Kook Stoves. Kash and Karry Grocery. Simmon's K. K. Kord Tires. Kiddie's Koveralls. Kiddie Kars. Kiddie Klothes. Kleen Kwick auto emergency cleanser. Krank's (lather) Kreem for shaving. Buxton's Key Kase saves the pockets. The Kum-a-Part Kuff Button.

II. Consonant Substitution.

This is now a favorite device, and here again the letter *k* has special popularity.

K is substituted for *c* having the value of *k*, initially, medially and finally.[1]

Soft Sole Kosy Toes slippers. Klearflax Linen Rugs and Carpeting. Ko-rek-tiv White Oil. Kwickwork auto enamel. Koverfloor floor covering in liquid form. Kantleek Hot Water Bottle. Kardex for record cards. Kum-a-Part separable button for soft cuffs (the Kuff button). Kisselkar automobile. Anatomik footwear. Klenzo tooth paste. Multikopy carbon paper. Kutzit soap for mechanics. The Stanerek suit for men. Spalding's Kro-flite golf ball. Flintkote paint. Las-Tik patch for tire blowouts. TastyKake is the best. Non-Konstricting belt for men. Butter Krust, the better bread.

An instance from outside trade-names is "Party Tonite—Kum!"

[1]Apropos of contemporary fondness for *k* may well be recalled the curious name-lore of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. They show the same liking for this consonant as present-day advertisers; although it is doubtful whether there is much connection between the two manifestations. The Ku Klux Klan makes much of Klansmen and Klannishness. It numbers among its officers an Imperial Klaliff and a King Kleagle. It has a revised oath and a revised Kloran, sealed by a prayer of the Imperial Kludd. It holds an Imperial Kloncilium and there are meetings in a Klavern, etc. The remarkable nomenclature of the organization is said deeply to impress its members.

Z is often substituted for *s* having the value of *z*, as in—

Az-Nu for enameling hoods and fenders. Ewing's Kutzit soap for mechanics. Lute Morse—He Selzum (Hupmobiles). Phiteezi shoes. Klenzo tooth paste. De Scholl's Foot-eazer for women.

S appears for *c* in the value of *s*, and conversely *c* sometimes appears for *s*, as—

Segar, for cigar.

Asbestocel ("Johns-Manville has just issued a booklet which tells how to sell and apply heat-insulations").

X appears for *ks* in many trade-names and signs, as—

West Clox, made by the Western Clock Company. "Chix for sale." "Buy your Inx here." "Thanx, Come Again." "Sox" is now very common.

Sh appears for *s* in compounds of the word *sure*,—

Shur-on Eyeglasses. Shur-rite quality pencil. Shur-Edge cutlery made by the Robeson Company.

Examples of *ph* for *f* are frequent in humorous newspaper writing, as "Phord," "pholks," "phool," but are not common in trade-names.

Phiteezi Shoes.

III. Consonant Omissions.

These appear mostly in compounds, like—

The Stanerck Suit, made at Fashion Park. Seeanbee, a ship in the Cleveland-Buffalo Transit service. Dyanshine Shoe Polish. Slipova clothes for children. Genalco Latite shingles. Fiberstok envelopes and other specialties—also Jutestok and Manila. Spalding Kro-flite golf balls. Clow Gasteam Heating. Rinkelade, to smooth the skin. Slendaform, guaranteed to reduce. Stacomb, for well-groomed men.

IV. Simplification of *-igh* to *-i*.

This is now, perhaps, the most frequent and popular of re-spellings. Its currency should please the spelling reformers and may help them. If the writing of *i* for *igh* has not yet been accepted by the academic world it has been by the commercial world.

Ride Rite Springs make rough roads smooth. The Leonard Hi-Oven Range. Da-Nite Bed. Presto-Lite batteries for automobiles. Locktite tire

patch. Locktite Tobacco Pouch. Juniorlite clamp lamp. Adjustolite lamp. Shur-Rite eyeglasses. Ritehite trunks. Rederite lamps. Sunlite Bakery. Evertite bags and purses. Hi-Speed Oils. Shu-Wite shoe cleaner. Genalco Latite shingles. Coleman Quick-lite lamp. Spalding Kro-flite golf balls. Milady Coffee in Air-Tite Cans. Hat-brite for coloring old hats. Lum-brite for cleaning metals. Electric Auto-Lite Company. Sunbrite Cleanser is best.

Present-day student notices on bulletin boards, etc., read oftener than not, "Party Friday Nite," "Meeting Tonite," "Kum Tonite," etc.

V. Vowel Changes.

These are fewer than consonant changes and examples are fewer.

Omission of final *e* appears in—

Coolmor Porch Shades. Eatmor Milk Chocolates. Quickserv Grocery. Trufit Shoes. Quick-Shyn for Shoes.

The spellings *ee*, *e*, or *e-e* are substituted for *ea* in—

Kantleek Hot Water Bottle. Rederite lamps. Phiteezi Shoes. Krank's (lather) Kreem for shaving. Notaseme Hosiery.

An *i* replaces medial *y* in compounds like—

Gruen Verithin Watches. The Redipoint Pencil. Armour's Veribest Canned Goods. Trilene for Fat People. Rubifoam dentifrice.

Conversely *y* appears for *i* in—

Quick-Shyn for Shoes. Merrimyx dancing club.

VI. Miscellaneous Vowel and Consonant Changes.

Here are grouped for convenience forms that have not belonged under preceding classifications.

Holsum Bread. Hoo-Dye Shock Absorbers, made by the Houdaille Company, Buffalo. Neu Tone flat interior paint. Shu-wite Shoe cleaner. Nu Shoe Repairing Shop. Nu-Tone tonic. Nu-White shoe paste. RenuLife violet ray. Takara Cof Gums (gum drops for colds).

Kno-Glair pleated linen shades for electric lights. Kno-Burn metal lath. Sun-Maid raisins, Fresno, California. Dazira Face Powder. Jonteel Face Powder. Sealdsweet Florida Grapefruit. Flintkote slack surface roofing Murphy's Dacote Motor Car Enamel dries overnight. Rat Biskit. Cho-kr, the extinguishing ash tray.

Occasionally archaic spellings are adopted. This is not a new device, however.

The New Beauty Shoppe. Olde Book Shoppe. Ye Olde Smoak Shoppe. The Tasty Shoppe. The Gift Shoppe.

VII. Simplifications through the use of Capital Letters.

This is another device which appears to be growing in popularity. Where possible a capital letter is often substituted for writing out of a syllable.

E. Z. Walker Shoes. Sherman T. and Coffee House. Call Tel-U-Where for our nearest distributor. Oysters R now in Season. Fits-U Eyeglasses. U All Kno After Dinner Mints. Uneeda Biscuit. Uneedme Chair Pad. X-L-ent Brand of Salmon. R U interested in a Rummage Sale? U should subscribe to the New Stadium. R U going to the game? U should visit Robber's Cave. U-Rub-It-In ointment.

On the other hand, capital letters forming initials are often spelled out to make new words, as—

En-Ar-Co Motor Oil, for sale by the National Refining Company. Pebeco Tooth Paste, made by P. Beiersdorf and Company.

VIII. Use of Small Letters for Capitals.

Occasionally small letters are employed instead of the customary capital letters, as a device to catch the eye. This was often made use of on Government posters during the war period. Its appearance is parallel, perhaps, with the omission in some forms of contemporary verse of the usual initial capitals in consecutive lines of poetry.

"travelo" knit jackets. "fresh Tuxedo tobacco."

IX. Medial Capitalization.

This is often made use of when the medial syllable is *-o-*. Sometimes a final *-o* is also capitalized.

Prest-O-Lite. Health-O-Meter scales, "The pilot of health." Rev-O-noc tennis racquets. Ra-Dee-O Supply Shop. "I-O-Way" is the heading of an editorial on the Iowa football team, published in the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*, 1922. The "*Cheer-O-Gram*" is a chiropractic publication.

X. Intentional Misspellings in Newspaper Writing.

A usage related to the employment of non-standard spellings in advertising is that which now plays a considerable part in the columns of special writers for newspapers, such as writers concerning sports, fashion, health, writers of book and theatrical notices, and especially humorous "columnists." There is no pretence that the writers are illiterate, that their manipulated spellings are the result of ignorance. In this respect there is difference from the dialect writing of the older humorists, like Artemus Ward, or Petroleum V. Nasby. Present-day newspaper writers employ the non-standard forms quite frankly in their own persons, to add vivacity or piquancy to their pages or to catch the reader's eye. They wish to spice their paragraphs, to make them seem informal or colloquial, or they wish their pages to attract attention—as the advertiser wishes his announcement or his article of commerce to attract attention.

The crool war is over (from an editorial column). furriner. 'lil. Wot of it? 'nuf sed. shur 'nuf. thanx. bag o' trix. colyum. phool. pholks. Phord. y'know. You bettcha. Whaddye mean? Dja ever? He isn't tuff—he only thinks so. sassiety. 'neverything.

In the columns of the Chicago *Tribune* have appeared "A heluva thing," "The divil of it is he is still chivalrous," "All vurr' well as far as it goes," "Whoinell told them so?" Dr. Brady writes as headings in his syndicated Health columns, "Offagin, Onagin," and "The Big Wans and the Little Wans," and he discusses "fizzical culture." Kenel Digby writes of the *Litry Review* in the *Literary Review* of the New York *Evening Post*.

"Oklahoma Ruf-Neks" is the name given themselves by Oklahoma University football enthusiasts. "Dr. Cutter Speaks at Nu-Med Dinner," is a heading in a college paper. "Kappa Konvention at Glacier Park" is a heading in a fraternity periodical. "Hoo's Hoo" in an advertising sheet published by Henry Holt and Company.

Louise Pound.

University of Nebraska.

WORD-LIST FROM SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN.

The expressions listed below have been noted by a man trained in science, who has, however, no training in philology. He observed that many of the expressions given by Lehman as current in the Northwest (*Dialect Notes,* V:v:181) and by Hanford as employed in American folk-speech (*Ibid.,* 149, ff.) are current in southwestern Wisconsin. In checking this list I have used T. Wright, *Dictionary of Obsolete and Provincial English,* 2 vols., London: 1869, referred to in the list as "W"; *The Slang Dictionary* London: 1874[?], referred to as "S"; and Barrère and Leland, *Dictionary of Slang, Jargon, and Cant,* Ballantyne Press, 1889, Vol. I. "B," as well as *Webster's New International Dictionary,* the *Oxford Dictionary,* and the *Century Dictionary.*

I. Miscellaneous Expressions.

ash-gum, n. A piece of a tree, generally of the trunk, hollowed out used to collect ashes for soap. A barrel thus employed is often so called. When water is poured upon the ashes, the receptacle becomes a *lye-gum.*

back-track, v. int. To double back upon a trail, particularly if the feet are so set in the former footprints as to leave no forward trail; used of a deer, fox, wolf, or man. (Said to be in use also in Maine.) B. "He back-tracked about half a mile."

bee-gum, n. A piece of a tree, generally of the trunk, hollowed out and set up to serve as a bee-hive. Cf. *ash-gum.*

bell, v. int. Cf. *N. Int. D.,* s. v. *bell,* v. i. and t.

blacksnake; blacksnake it, v. To crawl as a blacksnake would crawl. "He *blacksnaked it* up to git within gunshot."

blue-racer, n. phr. A kind of snake. "He can run like a *blue-racer.*"

boot-pack, n. A rawhide moccasin having only one lift on the heel, a top like a boot, and no lacing over the instep. A *shoe-pack* is similar, but the top is lower. Both boot-pack and shoe-pack have passed from use and speech with the coming of the rubber boot. "The snow was dry, and I was wearin' my *boot-packs.*"

bresh, bresh round, v. int. To do light work at trimming trees while chopping is being done; to do light work of any kind. "He ain't workin' steady—jest *breshin' round,* I guess."

butt (of the ear, of the jaw, etc.) n. The end. "I handed him one on the *butt* of the jaw."

chestnut bell, n. A small bell worn on the shirt or waistcoat of a dandy and covered by the coat; the bell, actuated by a spring, was rung whenever an outworn funny story was told. (Obs.)

chink-and-daub, adj. Of log construction, chinked with wood and daubed with mud or plaster. "He's got a *chink-an'-daub* cabin up thar in the woods."

clippings, n. plu. Waste wood from the trimming of barrel staves. *ouckings* are also waste from this process, but are larger than clippings, since they are made at a different stage of the manufacture. "He's burnin' *clippin's* this winter."

cock o' the woods, n. phr. The great pileated woodpecker.

copperhead, n. and adj. A Northern sympathizer with the South during the Civil War, 1861-65. (Still current among the older generation.) *Johnny Reb* and *Secesh* are still in use.

crease, v. t. To injure a horse or deer by shooting off a spine or projection of a vertebra of the spinal column. (Cf. W. s. v. *crease,* 4: " a rent or split." "He just *creased* the deer."

crock, n. A flaring stone vessel to hold milk; a milk crock. (W, but not in the specialized sense.) "She dropped the *crock* and the milk went all over everywhere."

crooked stick, n. phr. A man who has turned out to be more or less a failure in life. No dishonesty of character is implied. "She was very partikler who she was goin' to marry, but she finally picked up a crooked stick."

cut a gut, v. phr. To make a mistake, or to fail in a task. (From dressing an animal.) "Oh yes, he said he'd do it, and then he *cut a gut.*"

deacon, (1) n. A calf of veal age; the hide or skin of such a calf. "That hide ain't worth much; it's only a deacon." (2) adj. Belonging to such a calf. *Deacon veal* is an equivalent of bob-veal.

drunk, adj. Drunken. (Cf. modern Scots, and compare *N. Int. D.,* s. v. *drunk,* 1: "rarely used attributively, except *Scot. or dial.*") "A *drunk* man."

dumb bull, n. An instrument made of a tin pan, pail, etc., to the bottom of which is attached a rosined cord or rope. The dumb bull was much used at charivaris, or mock serenading parties for newly-married couples. The smaller "squealer" is employed in playing "tick-tack," annoying the inmates of a house at night.

dump-road, n. A road built by hauling in and dumping loose dirt.

eighty, n. A tract of land containing eighty acres. The phrase, "across an eighty" indicates therefore about a quarter of a mile. A *forty* is the common unit of reckoning land. " How far is it over there?" "Oh, 'cross an *eighty* an' a *forty.*"

elm-peeler, n. A poor white who peels elm trees for slippery elm, which he sells. "He's no count—just an *ellum-peeler.*"

fashionable hat, n. phr. A derby hat or bowler hat. (Obs.)

fiddle, fiddle away, n. phr. To idle, to appear to work when not working or accomplishing anything. The phrase "fiddlin' away" is taken as descriptive of character.

fine boots, n. phr. High-heeled boots with tops of variously colored leather, and decorated with stars, or other ornaments. (Obs.) See the illustration under "Shoot the peccadillo." Evidently these are of the kind

of boots referred to in the following extract from "Caleb Peaslee on Red-Top Boots," *Youth's Companion*, March 8, 1923, pp. 146-47: "The top of dressin'," Caleb went on, "was to have a pair of boots made of a little thinner leather—kip leather, mebbe—[leather made from the hide of yearlings.—H. J. S.] and in front, at the top of the laigs, would be a square piece of red leather, about four inches square, with mebbe an eagle, or a shield, or some such fixin'. When a boy tucked his homespun britches down into a pair of boots like them, he felt he was rigged out to go to church, or town meetin', or a muster, or any place where he needed to put his best foot forrard. You've seen such boots, when you was a youngster, Hyne?" Caleb queried, and the deacon, with a flicker of a smile, admitted that he had. . . .

"Fine boots" were of calfskin, and were worn by men. They always fitted tightly, and the wearer might even have to soap his feet to put them on. Compare the illustration under "chicken, like a frozen-toed." §II, below.

fish scale, n. phr. A silver five-cent or three-cent piece, not a nickel piece.

flint hide, n. phr. A piece of hide, or a whole hide, taken in cold weather when the hide is white. Toughness is not a factor.

foalded, v., preterite, used as if the verb were *to foald.* "The mare *foalded* in June."

forty, n. See *eighty.*

Fourth, n. A Fourth-of-July celebration. "You goin' to the *Fourth*?"

fuskit, n. An old army musket (perhaps from its frequent "spittings"). Also, occasionally, *Queen Anne.*

gallus, adj. Excellent, very fine, of a thing. (B, an intensive adv., "very." So also W and S.) "She set up a *gallus* dinner." "That was a *gallus* piece of meat."

gaum, v. t. and int. To smear. (Cf. *N. Int. D.*, s. v. *gaumy*, and W, *gaum,* 4.) "He got all *gaumed* up with axle grease."

gawk, n. A gawky man, never a woman. (W, *gawk,* 2, adj.) "He's a regular *gawk*—all hands and feet."

gone coon, gone fawnskin, gone goose, gone gosling, goner. (B)

gum. v. t. and int. To masticate with the gums. "Th' old man was eatin' fish, an' there he set, *gummin'* away."

hewed-log, adj. Made of hewn logs. "A good, *hewed-log* house."

hickory shirt, n. phr. A work shirt made of crossbarred cotton cloth, which is called *hickory shirtin'.* "He never dressed up goin' to church—just wore an old *hickory shirt.*"

hi-open-bopens, n. (1) plu. Fourth-of July mummers. "Here come the *hi-open-bopens!*"

(2) sing. Hence, a man fantastically or badly dressed. "He's a regular *hi-open-bopen.*"

hunting shirt, n. A homespun jacket, much like the Norfolk jacket, used for hunting or outdoor work

kettle, n. A tin pail.

knifeman, n. A man who fights with a knife. (Cf. *gunman.*) Not common.

license, n. plu. A singular used as a plural, as of two or more hunting licenses. "Have ye got them *license*?"

meller, v. tr. To beat; to pound. "I'll *meller* him."

mineral, n. Any substance which is mined. "Yes, lead, black-jack, and dry bone is all *minerals*."

mosey; mosey along, v. int. To depart rather hurriedly. (Cf. *N. Int. D.*, s. v. *mosey*, where the definition is not so specific as this use indicates.) "Come, you *mosey* right along."

mule, n. A sawbuck.

mule-foot, (1) n. A one-toed hog, a hog with a solid hoof. "He's got a drove of *mule-foots*." (2) a. Having only one toe (of a hog).

mushrat; mushrat around, v. and v. phr. To idle, to dawdle. "He don't seem to be doin' much—jest *mushrattin'* around."

painter, n. A panther. "He screamed like a *painter*."

penaidie, n. Bread crumbs served with butter, sugar, and hot water. (Fr. *pain?*) "He's feelin' kind o' bad; had some *penaidie* for breakfast."

pindlin', a. (*N. Int. D.*, s. v. *pindling*, adj.)

plumb-buster, n. A very powerful man physically; intensive of *buster*. (Complimentary.) "Strong? I should say he was! Why, he's a *plumb-buster*!"

poganate, v. int. To depart hurriedly or quickly. "Here, now, you *poganate!*"

ponhaws, n. Scrapple. (For *pan hase*, Pennsylvania German dial., scrapple.)

salt-rising, n. Bread made from dough, part of all of which has been allowed to ferment. "Livin' on *salt-risin'* and sow belly."

sang, clipped form of *ginseng*. (1) n. ginseng root. (2) v. int. to dig ginseng root. "What you doin'?" "*Sangin'*."

sang-hoe, n. A narrow hoe used in digging ginseng root.

shocpack, n. See *boot-pack*, above.

sign, n. sing. Dung. "That wolf's been round again; he left some *sign* over there by the bush."

skew-haw, adj. Askew, out of order. "This harvestin' machine's all *skew-haw*."

skift, n. (See *N. Int. D.*, s. v. *skift*.)

slawnch-wise, adj. Slantwise, slanting, out of true.

smooth-bore, n. A rather worthless fellow; a term of mild opprobrium. "That old *smooth-bore!*"

softy, n. A gullible person. (Cf. S, s. v. *soft*.) "Oh, he's a kind of a *softy*; he's believe anything."

Sow-wegian, n. A Norwegian immigrant; a term of derogation. (Perhaps, it is suggested by jocular association of *sow* with *sou'*, for south.) "A darn *Sow-wegian*!"

spill, n. A split piece of alder used to lead "sugar water" from the tree to the receptacle which is to catch it. (Cf. *N. Int. D.*, s. v. *spill*, 2a.)

splint-shin, n. A strain of the muscles of the leg, the result of wearing *boot-packs*, q. v.; considered to be a sign of soft muscles, and hence as

somewhat humorous. "He's over there settin' on a log—he's got a *splint-shin.*"

spuds, n. plu. Money. (Cf. W, *spuds,* 5, "a good legacy.") "He's got the *spuds.*"

sucker, n. A man from Illinois. In the spring, at the same season as the suckers ascended the Mississippi River, certain men also come from Illinois to work in the lead mines.

squib, n. A fiasco, a flash in the pan. (Cf. *N. Int. D., squib,* 1.) A light charge of powder in a muzzle-loading rifle, without ball or adequate wadding, which does no harm. "The Fourth this year was a sort of a *squib.*"

sugar bush, n. phr. A grove of sugar maples. "He's got a big *sugar bush* on his place."

thunder pumper, n. phr. (*N. Int. D.*) According to tradition, the great bittern, not the bittern, thrusts his bill into the water and "pumps" before a thunderstorm. In this notion there may have been at one time, if not at present, an association of cause and effect.

toad-stabber, toad-sticker, n. A jack knife.

track, v. int. To follow in trace, as of wheels; to go in the same direction. (An extension of *N. Int. D.,* track 1.) "His eyes don't *track.*"

tree, v. int. To take refuge, as in a tree, by extension of the v. int. *to tree;* used without reference to what affords the refuge. "The wildcat *treed* in the rocks." "He *treed* in a hole."

tug-mutton n. A child; from the days of sheep-stealing. (Cf. W, "a great glutton.") "He's livin' on the hills, and he's got a wife and half a dozen little *tug-muttons.*"

yahoo, n. A term of great opprobrium, a "fighting word," applied by people living south of the Wisconsin River to those living north of it. (S, but not in this specialized sense.)

yella boys, n. plu. Gold pieces (S, W).

yelper, n. A young turkey. He's got a flock of *yelpers* up there."

II. Similes and Metaphors.

barracks, like a pair of, adj. phr. Arrogant, "cocky." Like a hay-barracks, a temporary barn for storage of hay, in which wagons are unloaded from both sides into the mows. (See *N. Int. D., barracks,* 3.)

beans, white, n. phr. "Land so poor it won't grow *white beans.*"

beef, drive home the, v. phr. To win, or to gain, everything at stake. The figure is from the shooting match, in which one or more beeves were the prizes. The most expert shot won the four quarters and the hide, and therefore could drive his beef home.

blacker than a black cat, a stack of black cats, a black bull's belly, a. phr.

brick watch, bet a. v. phr. Used when the speaker is very certain of something. "You can bet a *brick watch.*"

draw too fine, drawn down too fine, v. phr. To act conservatively. The figure is from drawing a bead in rifle shooting. "He didn't make much on that deal; he *drew down too fine.*"

drive the nail, v. phr. To do a thing aptly, especially to speak aptly. A phrase from old-fashioned target shooting, in which the marksman often shot at—and hit the head of a nail, driving the shank into the board. Cf. *''To hit the nail on the head.''* ''He got up and said only a few words, but he *drove the nail.''*

fate and dumplings, spite of, adv. phr. At any cost. ''He vowed he'd git in that hay *spite of fate and dumplin's.''*

fish or cut bait, v. phr. To choose an alternative course of action. ''Here, you either *fish or cut bait.''*

frozen-toed chicken, like a, adv. phr. Used to describe a gait in walking. ''He had on his fine boots, and they were so tight he walked like a *frozen-toed chicken.''*

go to heaven in a hand basket, v. phr. To do something easily. ''Why, he'd want to *go to heaven in a hand basket!''*

good as the wheat, adj. phr. Trustworthy, very good, very safe, especially as regards matters financial. In eastern Pennsylvania, the phrase is ''good as wheat,'' without the article.

harder than horn, a. phr. ''That piece o' skinned hickory's *harder'n horn.''*

head like a bird's nest, n. phr. An uncombed head. ''That boy's got a *head like a bird's nest.''*

high kicker, n. phr. An expression of derogation. The figure is borrowed from horsemanship. The term *high stepper* has no derogatory connotation.

higher than Gilderoy's kite, adv. phr. Very high; or a simple intensive. (Industrious search fails to establish the identity of Gilderoy.) ''He knocked him *higher 'n Gilderoy's kite.''*

hoe corn, v. phr. To do hard work. ''You had better get down to business and *hoe corn.''*

lick his weight in wildcats, v. phr. A phrase indicating physical hardness, used as a compliment to a muscular man, who is not necessarily a big man.

lick him so his hide won't hold shavings, won't hold hay, v. phr.

little end of nothing, n. phr. A derogatory intensive. ''Why, he don't amount to the *little end o' nothin'* whittle off to a point an' the point cut off!''

mice, like a; slick as a, adv. phr. Easily without trouble. ''I'll do that *slick's a mice.''*

old woman with the straw kettle, like the, adv. phr. See *kettle,* §I. He's like the *old woman with the straw kettle,* neither borrow nor lend.''

pea-time, like the last of, adj. phr. Utterly worn out. ''He looks like the *last o' pea-time.*

potato trap, n. phr. Mouth. ''Shut your *potato trap.''*

pound of wool, no bigger than, adj. phr. Not very large. ''He stood up there *no bigger'n a pound of wool.''*

poisoned pup, swell up like a, v. phr. To put on airs. ''Why, he's swelled up like a *poisoned pup.''*

put a tack under his tail, v. phr. To arouse, to stir up. When a horse had the habit of getting the reins under his tail, it was not unusual to insert tacks in the reins.

rail, thin as a, adj. phr. (It is suggested that the reference is to the rail bird, not to a fence rail.)

road to mill, long as the, adj. phr. Often applied to a tall man. "He's a long, ganglin' feller, long as the *road to mill.*"

Stoughton bottle, to stand like a, v. phr. To stand very still or stupidly. (The "Stoughton bottle" is not identifiable.) "He just stood there like *a Stoughton bottle.*"

tin ear on, to put a, v. phr. To strike or beat, especially, about the head. "If you say that I'll *put a tin ear on* you."

tooth and toe nail, by. adv. phr. With the greatest difficulty; fiercely. "He only got it done by *tooth and toe nail.*" "They fit *tooth and toe nail.*"

whit leather, tougher than, adj. phr. Tougher than rawhide. (*Whit,* "white?")

whoop, whoop out, v. phr. To hustle with violent dispatch. "You let him show his face round this place, and I'll just *whoop him out o' here.*"

III. Jocular Expressions and Exclamations.

beau-catcher, n. Fluffed-out hair on a girl's temples. (Obs.)

fill one's shirt, v. phr. To eat heartily. "We had a big supper, and maybe I didn't *fill my shirt!*"

eat the grease, v. phr. To eat the cream; to take the best of something. (Local?) "I calculates t' *eat the grease.*"

eat the greaser, v. phr. To eat the pork and rind used to grease a griddle (Fig.). "If that ain't so, I'll *eat the greaser.*"

head up and tail a-rising, adj phr. With great rapidity and temper. (Transferred from a steer or a bull.) "And there he come, *head up an' tail a-risin'!*"

in a horn, adv. phr. Never. "Yes, I'll do it—*in a horn!*"

hell and high water, in spite of, adv. phr. At any cost, by hook or by crook. "He'll get there *in spite of hell an' high water.*"

hide on the fence, I've got his; never "I've got his hide on the barn door."

hoe handle suck, let the, v. phr. To idle, to loaf, and to talk, while supposed to be at work. "There is he, *lettin' the hoe handle suck!*"

old-step-and-fetch-it, n. A derogatory epithet. "Call *old-step-and-fetch-it,* over there."

old yellow, n. phr. A powerful purgative, probably jalap. "Ol' doc come an' give her a dose of *ol' yaller.*"

proud as a little boy with new red-top boots; as a little boy with copper-toes boots, adj. phr. See *fine boots,* §I. These comparisons are felt to be particularly appropriate when applied to the father of a new-born son.

shot the peccadillo! exc. A cant phrase of derision. (Obs.) "Here he comes in his fine boots and fashionable hat! *Shoot the peccadillo!*"

shoot your dye-stuff [*die-stuff?*], *squirt your dye-stuff,* v. phr. Go on, even if what you have to say is bad, or unpleasant.

sui, exc. A call for hogs. (Lat. *Sus. sui*; W gives *suin,* "*swine.*")

tail goes with the hide. In the days before fixed prices, a clothing merchant, asked to include a pair of suspenders with a suit of clothes just purchased, hesitated at first, and then acquiesced, saying, "Oh well, take 'em; *tail goes with the hide.*" The figure is from selling a slaughtered beef.

that bangs bobtail, exc. An exclamation of surprise and approval.

IV. Euphemisms.

dominick chicken, n. phr. Any grouse killed and served out of season. "He must be livin' on *Dominick chicken.*"

essence peddler, n. phr. A skunk. "He run across an *essence peddler,* and he's stayin' away."

grocery, n. A grocery store where liquor was sold, for which very often no license was paid. "He's dry; he's goin' down to the *grocery.*"

how-came-you-so, adj. phr. Pregnant. "She's *how-came-you-so.*"

jo, n. A privy. The same word has been used at Yale. Compare *fourth* (Cambridge, England) and *mine* (Harvard).

mud lark, n. Pork. "What d'you have for dinner?" "Boiled potatoes an' *mud lark.*"

sun one's moccasins, v. phr. To die. "An' then he *sunned his moccasins.*"

take his commission, v. phr. To castrate. "That bull's gittin' cross. I'll *take his commission* when the weather gits cool."

Tip over, v. phr. To die. (Spoken with descending inflection of voice.) Not common.

Howard J. Savage.

Bryn Mawr, Pa.

MINOR NOTES

"BEGUILERS."

[Prof. O. F. Emerson reports a number of additional items collected by the editor of the *Plain Dealer*, who suggests that they pertain to painless art of "eye teeth lancing." The terms, if not self-explanatory, may be determined without extended investigation.—*Ed.*]

brass magnet.
cannoneer's post. Artillery.
compass key. Sailing.
corn plasters. Grain and feed store.
dots, half-tone. Printing.
elbow grease. Carpenters.
firing line. Army.
envelope stretcher.
guard line. Army.
interest tables. Furniture for bankers.
italic periods. Printing.
key to the center pole. Circus.
key to the clearing house. Bankers.
key to the keelson.
key to the starboard watch. Sailing.
key to the curtain. Theatres.
lamp black, white.
meat auger. Butchers.
muckets, box of. Telephone assembling.
naughts. For an adding machine.
oil the whistle. Work for new deck hands.
paint, wind-colored.
picket line. Army.
pigeon milk, can of. Painters.
putting on tools.
quad, four-pound. Printers.
radium, ten cents worth of.
recoil, bucket of. Artillery term.
report, day and night. Railroads.
reveille oil. Army.
rifle range. To be brought from the warehouse.
ringrang. To test voltage.
rubber border. Printers.
rubber crowbar.
rubber type. Printers.

rubber whetstone.
short circuits. Electricians.
sky hook.
sounder oil. Telegraph offices.
space rammer. Printers.
spark gaps. Electricians.
straight-edges, circular.
striped ink. Pressmen.
tighten the bilge. Work for new sailors.
type smoother. Printers.
wagon tracks. Hardware.
way-bill stretcher. Railroads.
wire sponge. Army. One rookie was given a porous stone with instructions to soak it well.
wrinkle, box of. Theatres.

Addenda from Kentucky.

[Material collected by Mr. Josiah H. Combs and sent later than the list already printed.—*Ed.*]

appearantly. Pronunciation of apparently.
cat tracks. Any disease of the eyes.
civilly, adv. Intensive for *certainly, surely.* "I *civilly* just had to hand him my hardware" (gun).
cleverly, adv. Only; just. "Spark's jist *cleverly* begun to farm."
cure, v. & n. Pronounced ky-ōré.
fat, n. Lard.
give up to be, v. phr. To admit; concede. "John Horseley's *give up to be* the knowin'est man in these parts."
gran'-daddy-gray-beard, n. A kind of spider with elongated legs and feelers.
hardware, n. Gun, usually revolver.
harricane. Pronunciation of *hurricane.*
horry. Corruption of *How are you?*
optionary, adj. Optional.
petition, n. & v. Partition.
reezins. Pronunciation of *raisins.*
scar, n. & v. Pronunciation of *scare.*
skew-ball, n. An ear of corn having fifteen or more red grains. "At corn huskings a speckled ear counts five, a red ear ten, and a *skew-ball* fifteen.—*skew-balled,* adj.
spit, n. Exact replica; image; likeness. "Sexton's boy's the very *spit* of his Daddy."
titter. Pronunciation of *tetter.*
thereckly. Corruption of *directly.*
up-headed, adj. 1. Shrewd; intelligent. "Mose is the *up-headedest* chap in school." 2. Cunning; "slick."
use, v. i. 1. To eat: applied to squirrels, rabbits, "groun'-hogs," etc.

"They come a squirrel up to that red bud tree last week, and's been a-usin, [eating the buds] there ever since. 2. To inhabit; frequent.

wet, n. Rain. "We're a-havin' a lot of *wet* this summer."

Louisiana Gleanings.

[The following items were long since submitted by Mr. James Rontt, the District Secretary for Louisiana. He was assisted in the collection by Miss Elizabeth Fischer, of New Orleans.—*Ed.*]

armour, n. An armoire, or wardrobe.

b from bull's foot, not to know. To be very ignorant. Also used with letter *a*.

basin, n. Canal.

bidon (*bîd·nn*), n. A kind of man's hat; beaver. Creole.

bimeby. Corruption of by and by.

black strap. Refuse molasses.

boucan, n. A smudge to keep off mosquitoes.

bow the blinds, v. phr. To close the shutters till they nearly meet.

buttress, n. In logging, the swell of a tree.

cellar, n. Basement. Owing to the watery soil the floor is above ground.

creole, adj. Produced in Louisiana, as *creole* eggs.

crip, n. A cinch; a set up.

cunning, adj. Tight, as a *cunning* knot.

donkey boiler. In logging, a small independent boiler, used to get up steam quickly on a boat.

down the street, prep. phr. Down town.

fiddle with, v. phr. To meddle with; also, to trifle with.

flannens, n. pl. Flannels: among negroes.

float road. In logging, a forest path chopped that flood water may carry rafts through.

fraternity, n. Used for *sorority*.

frog-sticker, n. A large knife.

geechy, n. Goosey. N. Car.

get fleshy, v. phr. To rise: of water. N. Car. mountains.

gi-gi (gî gî), n. Term of contempt for a Creole, especially from the country, or for an Italian.

go ahead on the nigger, v. phr. To steal the "nigger," q. v.

gris-gris (grî grî). To make a spell, usually by waiving the hands over someone.

guinea blue. The color of negroes' blue dresses or aprons: an old trade name.

high-ball, n. A railway signal to go at full speed.

hop-and-go fetch it, n. A cripple

how come? Interrogative for '*how did it happen?*' *General.*

huh. Pronunciation of *her*, more marked than the common Southern slurring.

huz. Pronunciation of *hers*.

i. Used for *e*, as in *pin* for *pen*. Common from South Carolina to Texas, but not found in Virginia.

kiyutle, n. A small dog.

little small, a. A small amount.

lizard, n. A long, narrow house, with the narrow end facing the street, and rooms opening on an alley along the side.

me, pron. Used intensively as French moi. "I am not going to-day, *me*."

milleton, n. Vegetable pears.

nigger, n. In logging, the engine that runs the capstan.

oi. Used for *er*, as *boid* for *bird*, *desoive* for *deserve*.

onfinancial, adj. Without money.

owl car. A street car running after midnight. Mass.

papiettes, n. pl. 1. Curl papers. 2. Knots of hair formed by them. Also *papiattes*.

parin (pâr ae), n. [*Fr. parent.*] 1. Godfather. 2. Relative in general.

paterole, n. Patrol.

pirooting (pair-ûtin), part. 1. Romping like children. 2. Going about aimlessly. 3. Rooting about like a pig.

plomber, v. In kite flying, to throw a rock attached to a string over the string of the kite to bring it down.

purmy stone. Pumice stone.

quartee, n. 1. One fourth of a 'bit' (12½ c.), later, one fourth of ten cents. 2. One fourth of a dollar; a quarter.

raquecha, n. A Creole who is conservative in temperament: used in a derogatory sense.

rather, v. t. To prefer. "I *rather* that one."

nick, n. A pile of wood.

run-arounds, n. pl. Rows of cribbing which are filled with sand bags to close a crevice in the levee.

rustabout, n. A negro deck hand on a steamboat.

set-up, n. Anything easy to get or accomplish.

shiveree (*f*ivër-î), n. A noisy night procession around the house of a couple just married.

skull-drag, v. t. = *maul-drag*.—v. i. To do a servant's work.

soup bunch. A small bundle of vegetables for soup. Also Ga.

stop by, v. phr. To visit. "*Stop by* my house."

sugary, adj. = *goosey*.

sw. Used for *sh*, as in *swimp* for *shrimp*, *swunk* for *shrunk*.

take a foul turn, v. phr. In logging, to throw the cable over a block and stop the raft.

tin-a-fix, n. Tinker.

torectly, adv. Corruption of *directly*.

tote, v. t. To carry home (victuals).

tumbleset, n. Somersault.

use, v. i. To frequent: used by hunters. Va., N. Car.

wall, v. t. To roll. "They *wall* their eyes."—*wall-eyed*, adj.

wop, v. 1. To whip. 2. To warp.

yistiddy. Pronunciation of *yesterday*. Also N. Eng.

CHAUCER IN MINNESOTA.

We were reading the "Miller's Tale" in the *Canterbury Tales*, and were dwelling on the description of Alisoun, the carpenter's wife, where she is enthusiastically called "a prymerole, a pigges-nye," (A. 3268); Skeat helped us out only with references to Skelton and Peele, and with the remark, "a term of endearment; pig's eyes being (as Tyrwhit notes) remarkably small."

I suggested that it would be nice if "pigges-nye" were the common name for a flower, to balance "prymerole," and called up our "deer's tongue," "hawksbeard," "dog tooth violet." "Oh," said one member of the class, "in Minnesota we always called the *trillium* the *pig's eye*. I never knew it had another name until I left there." Several other members of the class knew the trillium by the same name.

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JOTTINGS FROM KANSAS.

[Judge J. C. Ruppenthal is preparing another extended list of expressions found current in Kansas. The following are selected terms of various types submitted in advance.—*Ed.*]

autonomistic marriage. Marriage by agreement without legal formality. 36 Kansas 297 (Supreme Court of Kansas, 1887).

berzies, n. pl. Child's corruption of *berries.*

blow up, v. phr. To end in failure; play out. "He was going with Alta for awhile, but that *blew up.*"

comeatable, adj. That can be reached or got at. "The homestead is not *comeatable* for debts. Const. Conv. of Kansas, 1859. Proceedings, p. 311.

come in, v. phr. 1. Of wells: to spout oil. 2. Of domestic animals: to bring forth young.

denobilize, v. t. To degrade. "The readiness of the British to *denobilize* cigars." 22 Public 1127.

diffabitterence. Transposition of *bit of difference,* used by boys as far back as 1883.

disclass, v. t. To remove from a classification. "I hope you will disclass me as a physician."—by a lawyer mistaken as M.D.

hell and repeat. Intensive. "We made a trip that day, but it was *hell and repeat.*"

horripelation, n. The raising of hair in fear or horror. "The speed of taxicabs once induced *horripelation.* *Kansas City Star,* 2 Jan. 1920, p. 16, col 2.

let the animal out, v. phr. To give free rein to one's animal spirits.

morphodite. Corruption of hermaphrodite.

pettibockers, n. pl. A loose garment for girls, worn under skirts: contamination of *petticoat* and *knickerbockers.*

prairie hay. Hay from grass as it grows on the virgin prairie sod.

Sandy Kitty. Humorous for *Kansas City.*

stepping days. Youth.

teacherage, n. A dwelling for teachers: in analogy to *parsonage.* "Providing for the building of *teacherages.*" Bur. of Educ., Bulletin 1918, No. 23.

two star alumni. An alumnus who is the child of an alumnus. Univ. of Kansas, since about 1900.

DRUG ADDICTS CANT.

[The present list consists of terms collected by Professor Whitney W. Wells, of the University of California, in and about the Chinese quarter of San Francisco. It serves as advanced notice of an extended list, toward which the author will welcome contributions.—*Ed.*]

bindle, n. A package containing either morphine or cocaine. "Give me a *bindle* of snow."

bing, n. = *bindle.* Give me a *bing* of joy powder."

c, abbrev. Cocaine.

gow, n. Opium.

joy powder, n. phr. Morphine.

m, abbrev. Morphine.

mud, n. Opium.

pen yen, n. Opium.

red cross, n. phr. Morphine.

white cross, n. phr. Cocaine.

wings, n. pl. Cocaine.

THE TEXAS *L*.

The pronunciation which I shall attempt to describe is not, as my title seems to indicate, merely a local phenomenon, but is fairly common in other parts of the South. I have had extensive opportunity of observing it, however, only in Texas, although I have heard it from natives of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and Tennessee. I am not speaking, of course, of the *l* in such words as *help* and *self*, which is commonly silent in uncultivated speech, and frequently in that of college graduates and professional men. (This is, of course, not true in forms like *helping* and *selfish*, where the final consonant goes with the following vowel, and the *l* has the characteristic quality described below.) The sound to which I refer is heard in *l* final, syllabic *l*, and especially in *l* between vowels. It is most distinct in such words as *Alice, Helen, Nellie, Dallas, jelly, etc.*, where it somewhat resembles the continental *l* in sound, but is much more easily noticeable. In this pronunciation the tip of the tongue is much lower than in the articulation of the normal American *l*, frequently striking the base of the upper front teeth. The lip position is wide, tense, and retracted. The fact that this *l* differs from that of northern speech is commonly recognized by Texans themselves, but they often ascribe it, I think mistakenly, to Mexican influence. The fact that the pronunciation is common in Texas as far north as Dallas, and is heard in The Old South, would seem to discredit this idea.

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DIALECT NOTES
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EXCLAMATIONS IN AMERICAN ENGLISH

Exclamations have an important part in human speech, as one may observe by listening to the talk of people whose emotions are aroused. Human beings utter both articulate and inarticulate exclamatory sounds. Some of the latter do not differ greatly from the sounds that other mammals make, and they are probably far more primitive than is articulate human speech.

In the following lists of exclamations those that are inarticulate are treated first. These are followed by lists of articulate interjections and of onomatopoetic words. The objection may be made that the latter should have no place in lists of exclamations. This objection would seem well grounded in the main, and yet many of the onomatopoetic words are used as exclamations, and I have not been able to draw the line.

The general list of exclamations—doubtless far from complete—includes only those that are used at the present time in American English. I have heard these exclamations or I have read them in contemporary writings. Some of them, however, are little used in conversation. Thus *alas* is rarely heard and I have classified it as literary'' (*lit.*). There are also many artificial exclamations, that I have never heard, but which are used to accompany the illustrations in the comic papers. These are classified as ''comic'' (*com.*).

As introductory to the general list, I have given several classified lists of euphemistic substitute words, such as those for ''God,'' for ''damn,'' the ''devil,'' etc.

Finally, after the general list, short lists of exclamations used by Sheridan, Shakespeare, and Chaucer are appended to give some idea of the successive fashion in English exclamations.

Among the exclamations I have included such exclamatory expressions as ''God bless me!'' ''I declare!'' etc.; but I have omitted all expressions that contain a verb in the second person, such as ''You don't tell!'' and ''Go to the devil!'' Expressions

of this class were omitted chiefly because there seems to be no end to them and it is not seldom difficult to decide whether they are exclamatory or not.

INARTICULATE EXCLAMATIONS

The English-speaking people make use of inarticulate exclamations that can not be accurately expressed either with the standard English alphabet or the international phonetic alphabet. These are calls, laughter and weeping, shrieks, grunts, clucks, whistling sounds, etc. In our articulate speech there are vocalic sounds made by trilling the vocal chords, the tonality of which is determined by the size and shape of the resonance chambers. These vocalic sounds may occur alone, but they are usually accompanied by consonants. The consonants are made with the lips or by placing some part of the tongue near or against some part of the bucal cavity. They are stops followed by more or less of an explosion, or they are fricative rasping sounds, or a combination of the two. In all cases the sound is made by expelling the breath. These sounds may be articulated in an almost infinite number of combinations. For the most part they can be expressed by phonetic symbols.

The inarticulate exclamations are quite different. Some are made by drawing in the breath. These inarticulate sounds are probably more primitive than articulate speech.

Calls. There are both articulate and inarticulate calls. Some of the latter are the yodels, and the sounds that are made by placing the hand over the lips and removing it repeatedly while trilling the vocal chords.

Laughter and Weeping. These sounds are many: all are inarticulate and most are voiced. They vary from loud explosive sounds to those that are scarcely audible and which resemble low groans. It is very difficult for the listener to distinguish between laughter and weeping when they are hysterical. Although the sounds of laughter and weeping are inarticulate and can not be expressed accurately by the letters of the alphabet, the following approximations have come to be used conventionally: *ha-ha, haw-haw, har-har* (hearty laugh), *hee-hee, kee-hee, tee-hee* (snickering), *caw-hee* (loud, coarse laugh), *boo-hoo* (loud, convulsive weeping), *blub-blub* (blubbering), etc.

Shrieks, groans, etc. The shrieks are made by loud prolonged cries, voiced but quite inarticulate. The groans are less loud and less prolonged. They are often mere grunts, but they are uttered repeatedly and higher in the musical scale than the grunts.

Grunts. A common series of voiced grunts expresses "yes" and "no." There are infinite variations, the lips may be closed or open, and the sound may be nasal or not. There are usually two grunts in close succession, and if the second is higher than the first, usually by two notes in the octave, they mean "yes," but if the second grunt is lower than the first they mean "no." If they are pronounced quickly and clearly the assent or dissent is definite, while if they are prolonged or uttered indistinctly hesitancy or doubt is implied. These grunts—or at least the affirmative ones—are sometimes expressed roughly by the letters "uh-huh."

Another series of nasal grunts has been expressed in part by *m-m, n-m, hum, humph, ump, oomp, yum,* etc., or by *ahem.* These express surprise, vexation, doubt, etc., according to the tone or emphasis. A quick grunt denotes surprise. One with a rising inflection denotes interrogation or doubt, and one with a falling inflection expresses disapproval or vexation.

A similar series that is usually not nasal expresses surprise, disgust, etc. These are roughly rendered by *uh, huh, ugh,* etc.

Clucks. These are usually made by first placing the tongue against the upper teeth or the palate. The breath is then drawn inward and the tongue is relaxed, and there results a cluck or a sucking sound. This is used to express a warning, to make horses go, etc. The sucking sound is sometimes expressed approximately by "tch," but there are no English letters that can express the pure cluck. The word "cluck" is itself the nearest approximation we have.

Whistling sounds. There are voiceless bilabial and linguadental musical whistling sounds that are used as calls, or to express warning or surprise. They may be made by expelling the breath or by drawing it in. A common series of non-musical sounds is made by puckering the lips and either expelling the breath or drawing it in with a voiceless rasping sound. These are sometimes expressed, but only approximately, by *phew, whew, whee,* etc. They express surprise, incredulity, fatigue,

etc. By puckering the lips closely and drawing in the breath, a voiceless bilabial sucking sound is produced that is used to make horses go. In order to indicate that one is cold, one may trill his lips, with or without voicing—but usually with it. This sound is expressed roughly by *pr-r-r* or *br-r-r*.

Signs. There are numerous exclamatory signs that are made by the English-speaking people. These may be made by a motion of the hand or head, or by moving the muscles of the face. Not infrequently they accompany either articulate speech or inarticulate exclamations. Thus *uh-húh* (consent) is often accompanied by a movement of the head up and down, while *úh-huh* (dissent) is accompanied by a turning of the head. As signs do not come within the province of audible speech, they will not be discussed in this article.

ARTICULATE INTERJECTIONS

It is probable that some of these were originally inarticulate grunts or clucks. If such is the case, attempts were made to express them after a fashion in writing, and the resultant forms became standardized. Thus, "ahem" is probably an attempt to express in writing an inarticulate nasal grunt, but nowadays a reader pronounces it as it is spelled. The following is a list of articulate interjections: their meaning is discussed in The General List of Exclamations.

ah, aw, ha, haw;
ahem;
ahoy;
bah;
blah;
boo;
bosh;
da-da;
dee, dee-de-dee, dee-de-dum;
doo-la-doo-la;
eek;
faugh;
fee-fie-foh-fum;
la, la-la, la-de-da;
num-num-nummy-num;
o, oh, ho, o-ho, ho-ho, yo-ho, ho-hum;
oo(h), oo(h)-hoo, [ooh-woo][1], oo(h)-la-la, oo(h)-ta-ta, oof, oop, wah-hoo, fie;
fol-de-rol;
halloa, héllo, helló, húllo, hulló;
heigh, hey, heigh-ho;
hi, high hi(gh)-o, hi-hi, ki-yi, yi-yi;
hip-hip, hip-hip-hurrah or *hooray, yip-ee;*
hoopee, hoop-la, hoopsy-daisy;
hoopty doo;
hum, ump, umpty-umpty;
hurrah, hooray, rah-rah-rah, yah-yah-yah;
ipee;

[1] Those in brackets are taken from the comic papers.

yoo-hoo, ooy, yoo-ee, [*whoo-ee*], [*whooie*], *yow-hoo, yoodle, yoof;*
oochie, oochie;
ow, ouch, [*owf*], [*owg*], *wow;*
oy, oy-yoy;
pish;
poo(h), pugh, pouff, poot;
(p)shaw;
rah, rah, rah;
ray;
s-s-s, ps-s-s, pst, st, sh-sh-sh, psh-sh-sh;
sis-boom-ah, sis-boom-bah;
so-ho;
ta-ta;
tuh-tuh, tut-tut;
tush;
ulp;
upida-upidee;
yeow;
whist;
whoa, whoa-la;
whoop-la, whoopsie;
[*woops*];
[*wowee*];
yah;
yip-yip-yipee;
yo-ho-ho.

ONOMATOPOETIC WORDS.

ank, awnk (horn)
ba-ba, ma-a (sheep)
bam, blam, ca-blam, slam, wham, zam, [*ramblety-bam*], *zickity-bam, boom,* [*brump*]; *bang, ke-bang, jang,* [*plang*]; *bing, ting, zing, jing-jang; bong, bung-o; klink, klank, plink-plank-plunk, ker-plunk, galunk, plunkity-plunk, blunk* (all = sound of blow)
baw (weeping)
biff (blow)
blub, [*blup*], *ca-blub* (blow); *blub-blub* (blubbering)
boo-hoo (weeping)
bow-wow, wow-wow, yow-wow, woof-woof (dog barking)
br-r-r (shivering with cold)
caw-hee, kee-hee (coarse laugh)
chew (sneeze)
clapity-clap (horse-trotting)
click, clickety-click, chick-a-chick, chuck-a-chuck, chug-chug (train of cars)
choo-choo (train of cars)
cling-a-ling (bell)
cluck-cluck (hen)
cock-a-doodle-doo (cock)

crash (blow)
cuck-oo (bird)
eedle-doodle-deedle-doo (music)
erkuff (cough)
[*glug*] (choking)
gobble-gobble (turkey cock)
goo-goo (baby, or lovers)
ha-ha, haw-haw, har-har (laugh)
hee-hee, tee-hee (snickering)
hee-haw (donkey)
honk-honk [*ank-ank*] (horn)
ki-yi (dog yelping)
meow (cat)
moo (cow)
oof-oof (dog)
pee(p)-pee(p) (chicks)
[*pfut-pfut*] (beating of heart)
pit-a-pat (sound of light footsteps)
pitter-patter (rain)
plop, pow (blow)
pr-r-r (purring of cat, shivering with cold)
puf-puf, poof-poof (puffing)
quack-quack (duck)
r-r-r (growling of dog or bear)
rap-(a)-tap-tap, rat-(a)-tat-tat, rub-a-dub-dub (drum)
s-s-s, sh-sh-sh (= hush)
sock-o (blow)
splash
squee:—(pig),—*wee* (monkey)
swish (light blow)
swoosh (rustling)
tarara-boom-de-ay
thump (blow)
tick-tack(-tock) (clock)
ting-ting, tink-tink (bell)
tip-tip (train of cars)
toot-toot (whistle)
trot-trot, tlot-tlot (horse trotting)
tuck (blow)
tweet-tweet (bird)
ulk (choking)
ump-ta-ta (dancing)
[*waak*] (choking)
wam (blow)
[*wa-pee*] (blow)
wee:—(pig)
whack, che-whack, ke-whack (blow)

[*wump,*] [*wup*] (blow)
yip-yip (dog yelping)
z-z-z (buzzing, or snoring)
zip (blow)
zowie (blow)

SUBSTITUTES FOR GOD

(1) **Phonetic:**

dad: — bean it, — burn it, — rot it
dag: — gon(e) it
dod: — blast it, — dang it — gast it, — rot it
dog: — blame it, — blast it, — gon(e) it
dig: — swigger it, I'll be —swiggered
ding bust it
gad: by —
Gawd
gol(l): — blame it, — blank it, — blink it, — darn it, — ding it, — durn it, — damn (it)
golly: (oh) —, by —
gollies: by —
jolly: by —
Godfrey: good —
goodness: (oh) my —, great —, honest to —, for — sake, thank —
gosh: — almighty, — blank it, — blink it, — damn it, — dang it, — darn it, — ding it, — durn it, good —, for —'es sake, — hang it
guides: ye —
Guinea: by —
gum: by —
hot: — almighty
mud: for the love of —
zounds (*for* God's wounds: *lit.*)

(2) **Orthographic:**

G. or gee: by —, — damn it

(3) **In meaning:**

eternal: by the —
Father: holy —,[1] good —
gracious: oh my —, good —
heaven: — help me, I swear to —, good —(s)
Jove: by —
Jupiter: by —

SUBSTITUTES FOR "JESUS"

cheese: holy Swiss —, (oh) sweet — cake, — and crust
gee: holy —
geekus crow

[1] "Holy" is used in many exclamations where it is difficult to classify the words with which it is used, as for instance: "holy cats," "— doughnuts," "— mackerel," "— pickerel," "— rent day," etc.

jeize
Jerusalem: holy —
Joseph: oh —, by —
Josie: oh —

SUBSTITUTES FOR "CHRIST"

Christmas: oh —, giminy —
Christopher: —, Columbus
crimp: for —'s sake
mīst alcrīty (*for* Christ almighty)

SUBSTITUTES FOR "JESUS CHRIST"

cheese and crust
geekus crow
giminy Christmas
grease us twice (*Ind.*)
Judas priest
Jeans Rice

SUBSTITUTES FOR "LORD"

land good —-(s), for —'s sake
law: oh —, my —
lawdy: oh —
lawsamassa, lawse-a-massy, lo(h)d-a-massa (*or* -massy) (*for* Lord have mercy)
lordie: oh —
lud: oh —

SUBSTITUTES FOR "SAINTS"

sassafras: suffering —
seaserpents: suffering —
seaweeds: suffering —
snakes: holy —, suffering —
snooks: holy —

To these should perhaps be added "suffering cats," etc.

SUBSTITUTES FOR "DEVIL"

deuce: the —, the — take it
dickens: the —(you say)
mischief: the —(you say)

SUBSTITUTES FOR "HELL"

(1) **Phonetic:**

Halifax: to — with you
heckélum: by —
Helen (*from* hell and): — Maria
hen: oh —

To this list should perhaps be added "oh heck," "oh hicky," "oh hickory," etc.

(2) Orthographic:

H.: to — with you

(3) In meaning:

blazes: confound (damn, dang, ding) it to —
Guinea: to — with you
fire and damnation

SUBSTITUTES FOR DAMN.

(1) Phonetic:

dang: — it to blazes, dod — it, gosh — it, I'll be —ed
hang: — it, gosh — it, I'll be —ed
ding: — it, — the luck, gol (gosh) — it, gol (gosh) — it to blazes, gol (gosh) the luck
ding-bust: — it, I'll be —ed
darn: gol — it, gosh — it
garn it
consarn it
dern *or* durn: — it, gol — it, gosh — it, — the luck, I'll be —ed
burn it
concern it
deen: God — ya
bean: dad — it
condemn it
demn: God — it, God — the luck
commend it
dum it
bamboozled: I'll be —ed
jim-jam: I'll be —ed
jim-swiggle: I'll be —d

(2) Orthographic:

d-: — it (= "dash it"), I'll be —d
dash: (*for* d-): — it, — the luck, I'll be —ed
dish: I'll be —ed
blank (= —): — it, gol — it, blankity — it
blink (*for* blank): — it, gol — it, gosh — it

(3) In meaning:

blame: — it, dog — it, I'll be —d
bless: — my luck, — my stars, I'll be —ed
blast: dod — it, dog — it, God — it, — it to smithereens. I'll be —ed
gast: dod — it
flabbergast: I'll be —ed
blow: I'll be —ed
bust: ding — it, I'll be ding-—ed
confound: — it, — it to blazes, — the luck, — my stars
consider: — it, — the luck

deliver: I'll be —ed
doggon(e) it
drat it
grieve: goodness — us
jigger: I'll be —ed
ramshackle: I'll be —d
rot: dad (dod) — it
shoot: — it, I'll be shot
swigger: I'll be —ed
swiggle: I'll be —d
switch: I'll be —ed
torment: — it, — the luck

GENERAL LIST OF EXCLAMATIONS.[1]

above: Heavens — (surp.)
ah: — (surp. or satis.), — ha (=I told you so),—ha-hee (laugh), — me
ahem (incred.)
ahoy (call)
alack (lit., sor.)
alas (lit., sor.)
alive: crimeny sakes — (surp.: Maine), goodness sakes —, man —, sakes —, good land's sakes — (all surp.)
all: of — things (surp.), well of — things (seen and heard, seen and unseen) (surp.), in the name of — that's good and beautiful
almighty: by the — dollar (ang.), God — (ang., surp.), gosh — (surp., ang.), gosh — fishhooks (surp., vex.), Lord — (surp., ang.)
amen (approv.)
ank (automobile horn: com.)
apple: oh — sauce (surp.)
atta boy (from That's a boy [?]:, approv. in athletics)
atta kid (= atta boy)
aw
awk (com.)
awnk (com.)
ba-ba (sound of sheep, or ridicule)
baby: hot — (vex.), jazz —, — mine, oh — (all joy)
bad: — luck to you
bah (disg.)
bam (sound of blow: com.), — zam (sound of blow: com.), ramblety — (noise: com.)
bamboozled: I'll be — (ang., vex.)

[1] Explanation of abbreviations:—*admon.* = admonition, *ang.* = anger, *approv.*=approval, *com.*=comic or humorous papers, *disg.*=disgust, *disap.*= disappointment, *disp.* = displeasure, *encour.* = encouragement, *exult.* = exultation, *incred.*=incredulity, *laugh.*=laughter, *lit.*=literary, *satis.*= satisfaction, *sor.*=sorrow, *supplic.*=supplication, *surp.*=surprise, *vex.*= vexation. Exclamations observed in Maine are not local.

bang, or — —, (sound of blow or explosion)
Barnum: great —, ye shades of P. T. —
baw (weeping: com.)
bean: dad — it, oh —s, (surp. or vex.: Ind.)
beautiful: in the name of all that's good and —
bee: —'s knees (surp.)
begorra (Irish)
bells: hell's — or Nell's — (vex., surp.)
betcha: darn — (vex.: Penn. or approv.)
Betsy: heavens to— (surp.)
biff (sound of blow with fist)
bing (sound of blow), —, pop, bop (succession of blows)
blah (triumph or disg.); —·— (onom.: com.)
blam (onom.)
blame: — it, dog — it, — the luck, gol — it, I'll be —d
blank: gol — it, gosh — it, blankity — (it)
blankity blank
blast: — it, — it to smithereens, dod — it, dog — it, God — it, I'll be —ed, — my timbers, — my bloomin' peepers
blazes: —. confound it to —, damn it to —, dang it to—, ding it to —
bless or *God bléss:* — me, you, him, her, them, us; — my, etc., heart, — your, etc., dear heart, — my, etc., luck (vex.), — my, etc., soul (vex.), — my, etc., stars (vex.), I'll be —ed
blink: — 'em, — it, gol — it, gosh — it
blixen: thunder and — (surp., vex.)
blooey or *blooie*
bloomin': blast my — peepers
blow: — it, (well) I'll be —ed (surp.)
blub: — (sound of some one choking or drowning), — — (sound of weeping: com.), ca-— (sound of blow: com.)
blue: ye gods and small — fishes, jumping Moses on a — raft (New York)
blunk (blow: com.)
blup (sound of blow: com.)
bo: yea —, jazz — (joy)
bob: no siree — (disapprov.)
bong (sound of bell: com.)
boo: — — (to frighten children), — hoo (weeping)
boom: — (sound of explosion) (onom.); sis-—, sis-—-ah, sis-—-bah, zickety-— (college yells)
bop: bing, pop, — (succession of blows)
bosh (incred., disg.)
bother: oh — (vex. Garland)
botheration (vex.)
bow-wow: — (sound of dog barking), damnation —s (ang., vex.)
boy: atta — (encour. in games); oh —, oh yea — (both joy and approv.)
br-r-r (shivering)
bravo (approv., encour.)

bright: honor — (=on my honor)
brump (onom.)
bully (approv.)
bullylujah (= bully + [halle]lujah)
bum my clothes (surp.: Penn.)
bung-o
burn: dad — it
bushwah: oh — (incred.: Colo.)
bust: ding — it, I'll be ding-—ed
by: — by, —-bi-lý-by (= goodbye); — corky, — crackity (both surp.), — the eternal, — cracky, — G., — gad — George, — God, — gollies, — gum, — heck, — jabers, — jibbers, — jinks, — jing, — heckelum, — the Lord, — the almighty dollar, —the mass
bz-z-z (humming of insects)
ca-blam (sound of blow)
ca-blub (onom.: com.)
Caesar: —'s crutch, great — (surp.), great —'s ghost (surp.)
Captain: shades of — Kidd
cat: cold — (vex.), great —s, holy fish —s (surp.: Penn.), jimminy whizzle — (Colo., holy —s, —'s pajamas (Maine), suffering —s (all surp.), suffering —fish (vex.. Pen.), sweet —s (surp.)
caw-hee (laugh.: com.)
cheero (= cheer up)
cheese: holy Swiss — (com.), — and crust
cheesecakes: oh sweet — (New York City)
chew (sneeze)
che-whack (shaking hands: Riley)
chick-a-chick (train: Main Street)
chilled: — kitten
chloride: by — (New York)
choo choo (sound of train)
Christ: Jesus —, Jesus H. —, holy jumping Jesus —, oh —, for —'s sake (all disap. or vex.)
Christmas: oh —, jimminy —, merry —
Christopher: — (N. Y. 1918), — Columbus, holy — (surp., vex.: Miss.)
chuck-a-chuck (sound of train: Main Street)
chug chug (sound of engine)
clank, clank (onom.: com.)
click (sound of spring, camera, etc.)
clickety-click (sound of train)
clothes: bum my — (surp.: Penn.)
cluck-cluck (sound of hen)
cock-a-doodle-doo (crowing of cock)
cold cat (vex.)
collar: horse — (surp.: Mo.)
Columbia: hail —, hail — happy land
Columbus: Christopher —
come, or — —, (admon., encour.),

comets: holy —
commend it
common: in the name of — sense (surp., vex.)
concern (consarn) it
condemn it
confound: — it, — it to blazes, — the luck, — my stars
consarn: see concern
conscience: oh my —, upon my —
consider: — it, — the luck
coochee-coochee
cookie: sweet — (joy: Penn.)
corky: by — (surp., approv.),
cow: holy — (vex.: New York)
crack: by — (surp., approv.)
crackity: by — (surp., approv.)
cracky: oh —, by — (both surp. or approv.)
crash (onom.)
crawling: great — snails
crazy Jake
creation
crickets: gimminy (jimminy) — (surp.)
crimeny: —, — sakes alive (surp.: Maine)
crimp: for —'s sake (surp.)
cripe: sleeping — (New York)
crow: geekus — (Maine)
crust: cheese and —
crutch: Caesar's — (surp.)
cuck-oo (onom.)
curse (cuss): — it, — the luck, — my stars
curses: —, assorted —, a thousand —
cuss: see curse
d-: I'll be —d (pronounced "dashed")
da-da (baby talk; com.)
dad: — bean it (Indiana), — burn it, ye, etc. (Riley), — rot him, I'll be —-burned
daddy: sweet — (surp.: Penn.)
daggon it (cf. doggon it) (Colo.)
dag-gone it (Riley)
daisy: hoopsy — (surp.)
damn, or God damn: by — (vex.: Ind.) — it, -- it to blazes, — the luck, — me, you, him, etc., your soul, gosh — it, I'll be —ed, hot ziggety — (surp., com.)
damnation: —, — bow-wows, fire and —, hell and —, — and hell fire
dang, or gosh dang: — it, — it to blazes
darn: — betcha (vex.: Penn., or approv.), gosh —, gol — (it), — the luck, etc., I'll be —
darnation (ang., disap.)
dash: — it, — the luck, I'll be —ed

Davy Jones: for the love of — —
day: hot — (surp.), heavenly —s (surp.)
dear: (oh) —, — doctor (com.), (oh) — me (all disap., vex.), — whiz (surp.: Ind.)
dearie: (oh) — me (disap., vex.)
decks: swab my — (com.)
declare: I —, I — to goodness
dee: deedle-— -, deedle-— -dúm, fiddle-— - —
deedle: — -de-dée, — -de-dúm, —- — -dúm
deen: God — ya
deliver: Lord — us, — me, I'll be —ed
demn or *God —:* — it, — the luck
demnation bow-wows (ang., vex.)
departed: shades of the — (Greeks)
dern: — it, — the luck
deuce: the —, the — you say, the — take it, what in the —
devil: the —, the — he is, the — you say, the — take him, you, etc., what (in) the —
dickens: the —
diddle: fiddle—
dig: — swigger it, I'll be — swiggered
diggedy-dong: hot — (joy: Penn.)
diggity: hot —
ding: — — (sound of a bell), — -a-ling (onom. bell), — it, — the luck, I'll be —ed, gol — it, gosh — it, gol (gosh) — it to blazes, goll (gosh) — the luck, — bust it, I'll be — -busted
dished: I'll be —
do: — say, — tell (surp.)
doctor: (oh) dear —
dod: — blast it, — dang it (com.), — gast it, — gast your hide, — rot it, — souse the luck
dog: hot —, (approv.: Maine), — blame it, — blast it, — it, —on (doggon, doggone) you, it, etc., I'll be —oned, I'll be —ged (surp. or vex.: Ind.)
dollar: by the almighty —
doo: hoopty — (surp., joy)
doodle: cock-a-— -doo (crowing of a cock)
doo-la-doo-la
doughnuts: holy — (com.)
drat: — it, — the luck
dum it
durn: — it, gol — it, gosh — it, — the luck, goll (gosh) — the luck, I'll be — ed
earth: heavens and —, heavens on —, for the love of — (all surp. or vex.)
eedle-doodle-deedle-doo (music)
eek (joy)
eel: the —'s feet (surp.: Mo.)
egad (lit.)

encore (lit.)
er-kuff (cough)
eureka
eternal: by the —
ever: for — more (surp.)
eye: gol darn his —s, me (my) — (incred., surp.)
father: holy —, good — (com.)
faugh (incred., vex.: lit.)
fee-fie-foh-fum
feet: the eel's — (surp.: Mo.)
fiddle: oh —, — diddle, —-dee-dée, — sticks (all incred., disg.)
fie: (oh) — (disp., disg.), — on it, you, etc., fee- — -foh-fum
fire: — and damnation, hell —, damnation and hell —
fish: gosh all — hooks, holy —cats (surp.: Penn.), little —es, ye gods and little —es, ye gods and small blue —es (all surp. or vex.)
fizzle: oh — (vex.)
flabbergasted: I'll be —
fluffy puff
foh: fee-fie- — -fum
fól-de-ról (incred.)
forbid: God —
forgive: God — (me)
forsooth (lit.)
fudge: oh — (vex., disap.)
fum: fee-fie-foh- —
fury: oh —, oh — whack (both ang.)
G.: by — (pronounced "Gee"), —damn it, you, him, etc., — damn the luck, — help me, etc.
Gabriel: sweet — (surp.)
gad: —, by —, G —
galunk (sound of metal)
garn it
garters: (by) my stars and —
gast: dod — it, dod — your hide
Gawd
gee: (oh) — — heck, holy —, hully —, — mud, —whillicats (Florida), — whillikers (com.), — whillikins, — whittaker(s), — whiz, — whizzle, (all surp.)
gee (call to work animals)
geekus: — crow (Maine)
gemini, gemminy, gemenee or gimminy (in South of U. S.): — Christmas, — crickets, — whiz, — whizzle cats (all surp. or vex.)
geminetti, geemenetti, geemenety or *geminettae* (all surp. or vex.: in South of U. S.)
George: by —
geraniums: jumping — (surp. or vex.)
ghost: holy —, Caesar's —, great Caesar's — (all surp. or vex.)
gimpson: thunder and — root (Garland)

ginger: by —, oh —, — pop (all surp.)

glory: (oh) —, — be to God, — to God, — hallelujah (all joy)

glug (com.)

gobble-gobble (sound of turkey)

God: (oh) —, — almighty, — blast it, — bless me, you, etc., — bless my, your, etc., soul, — damn it, — deem ya, by —, glory be to —, glory to —, good —, great —, — forbid, — forgive (me), — have mercy, — help me, us, you, etc., holy —, honest to — (= I swear it is true), for the love of —, (oh) my —, my — in heaven, in the name of —, — preserve me, us, you, etc., — save me, us, you, etc., I swear to —, thank —, in —'s name, for —'s sake, ye —s, ye —s and little fishes, ye —s and small blue fishes

goddam: —, goody goody — (joy: New York)

Godfrey: good — (ang.: Penn.)

gold-fish: great — (com.)

gol(l): — blame it, — blank it, — blink it, — dam it, — darn his eyes, —darn it, you, etc., — darn your, his, etc., hide, — ding it, — durn it

golly: (oh) —, by — or by —ies, — Moses (Colo.), — ópulus (all surp. or joy)

goo goo (sound of babies, or ridicule of lovers)

good: —, in the name of all that's — and beautiful; — father (com.) — God, — Godfrey (ang.: Penn.), — gosh, — gracious, — grief, — heavens, by all that's — and holy, — land(s), — land of Goshen (Garland), — land of love, — land(s) sake's alive, — Lord, — morning, — night, — night nurse, — night shirt, — Scots, — Switzerland (last six. at least, denote surp.)

goodbye

goodie or *goody:* (oh) — (joy)

goody-goody, goddam (joy: New York)

goodness: (oh) —, I declare to —, (oh) — gracious, my — gracious, great —, oh — grieve us (northern New York), honest to —, land of —, (oh) — me, (oh) merciful —, (oh) my —, — Peter (Garland), — sakes, — sakes alive, for — sakes, my — sakes, thank —

gorra or *gorry:* be — (Irish)

gosh: (oh) —, (oh) — almighty, — blank it, — blink it, — damn it, — dang it, — darn it, you, etc., — ding it, — hang it, — all fish hooks, by —, good —, —all hemlock (com.), (oh) my —, for —'(es) sake

Goshen: good land of —

gr-r-r (sound of dog growling): —, —-rah! (college yell)

gracious: (oh) —, good —, — goodness, goodness —, — me, (oh) my —, (oh) my goodness — (all surp, or sor.)

grandmother: oh your — (incred., vex.), my sainted — (surp.)

grasshopper: great jumping — (com.)

gravy: by —

great: — Barnum (O. Henry), — Caesar, — Caesar's ghost, — cats, — crawling snails, — God, — gods, — goodness, — grief, — Guinea, — guns, — hat (Pennsylvania), — heavens, — horrors, — Lord, — Scott (all surp. or vex.), — gold-fish (com.), — jumping grasshopper (com.)

Greeks: shades of the departed —

greesus twice (Ind.)
grief: good —, great —, oh — (all sor. or vex.)
grieve: oh goodness — us (northern New York)
guides: ye — (com.)
Guinea: to — with you, great —
gum: by —
gumdrops: holy—
guns: great — (surp. or vex.)
gwan (="go on"): ah —, aw — (incred.)
H.: to — with you, him, etc.
ha: —, — (w-)—ha(w), ah- — -hee (all laugh.)
ha (call to work animals)
hail: — Columbia, — Columbia happy land
Halifax: to — with you
halleluyah: —, glory — (both joy)
halloa (lit.)
hang: —it (all), go — yourself, gosh — it, — the luck (anyway), I'll be —ed
Hannah: so help me —
happy: hail Columbia — land
har-har (laugh.: com.)
hat: great — (Penn.), my — (= not at all), holy —s (surp.)
heard: (well) of all things seen or (and) — (surp.)
heart: bless my, your, etc., —, bless my, your, etc., dear —
heaven: — help me, us, etc., my God in —, in the name of —, — preserve me, us, etc., — save me, etc.. I swear to —. thank —(s), in —'s name, for —'s sake, —s above, —s to Betsy (Clayton, N. Y.), —s and earth, —s on earth, good —s, merciful —s, oh —s (last seven, surp. or supplic.)
heavenly: — days (surp.)
heck: (oh) —, by —, gee — (all surp. or vex.)
heckelum: by —
hee: — - — (ironical laugh.), caw- —, ah, ha, —, kee — (these three imitate coarse laugh.), — haw (sound of donkey or exult.), — hum
heh-cha-cha (cough: com.)
heigh-ho (call)
Helen Maria: see hell
hell: (oh) —, —and damnation, — fire, damnation and — fire, — and Maria, the — you say, what (in) — (most = vex. or ang.), —'s bells (surp.), I'll be go to —ed (New York)
héllo or *helló* (call)
help: God — me, us, etc., heaven — me, us, etc., Lord — me, us, etc., so — me God, so — me Hannah
hem
hemlock: gosh all — (vex. com.)
hen: oh —, by — (surp., vex., Clayton, N. Y.)
Henry: O. — (surp., New York)
here, here (admon.)
hey: — (call), — oh, — there (call or warning)

hi: —, — yi, (call), — there (call or warning)
hickory: by — (surp. or vex.)
hicky: by — (surp. or vex.)
hide: dod gast your, his, etc., —, gol darn your, his, etc.,—
high-o (call)
high-yi (call)
hill: what in the Sam —
himmel (German)
hip: — - —, — - — -hooray, — - — -hurrah (all joy or encour.)
hippo (joy or encour.)
hips: the snake's — (approv.: Maine)
ho: — (call), — — (surp., incred. or call), oh — hum (vex. or disg.)
hoity-toity (incred.)
holy: — cats, — Christopher (surp., vex.: Mo), — comets (com.), — cow (vex.: New York), — doughnuts (com.), — father, — fisheats (surp.: Penn.), — gee, — ghost, — God, — hats (surp.), by all that's good and —, — jigger, — jumping Jesus Christ, — jumping Jehosaphat, — jumping jellybeans, — Jupiter, — mackerel, — Mackinaw (surp.: Maine), — Mary, — me, — mither (Irish), — Moses, — mother, — mudhen(s) (surp.), — pickerel, — pipers (surp.), — rent-day, — saints, — smoke, — smoke stacks (com.), — snakes, — snooks, — Swiss cheese (com.), — Virgin
honest: — Injun, — to God, — to goodness, — to gosh, — to John (all = I swear I am telling the truth)
honk, honk (sound of motor car horn)
honor bright (= on my honor)
hoo: — —, boo —, yoo —, yow —
hoopee (joy)
hoop-la (joy)
hoopsy-daisy (joy)
hoopty doo (surp., joy)
hooray: hip-hip- — (joy)
hoot (Scotch)
horrors: oh —, great —
horse: — collar (surp.: Mo.), the —'s mittens (surp.: Maine), — radish (disg.: Penn.)
hosanna (joy)
hot: — -a-mighty (Mo.), — baby (vex.), — day (surp.), — diggedy-dong (joy: Penn.), — diggity, — ziggety damn (surp., com.) — dog (joy: com., approv.: Maine), —lips (joy: Mo.), — mastiff (surp., joy), — pup, — puppie (joy), — sock (joy: New York), — tabasco (Maine), — towel (joy: Penn.)
huh (surp., disg., enquiry)
húllo or hulló (call)
hully gee (surp. or vex.)
hum: hee —, ho —
hum-m-m (incred.)
humph (disap., incred.)
hunkidory: —, all — (=all right)

hurrah: —, hip hip — (joy)
hut tay (= hot day)
I: — swan, — swear
idea: the —, the very —, (both, surp. or vex.); why, the —
Ignatz: O — (Main Street)
I'll: — be bamboozled, — be blamed, — be blessed, — be blowed, — be dad-burned, — be damned, — be darned, — be d—d (pron. dashed), — be delivered, — be ding-busted, — be dished, — be durned, — be flabbergasted, — be hanged, — be jiggered, — be jim-jammed, — be jim-swiggled, — be ramshacked, — be shot, — be swiggered, — be switched, — say (so), — tell the world
indeed (incred., vex.)
Injun: honest — (= on my word)
ipee (com.)
ishkabibble (= I should worry, or nothing doing)
jabers: be — (Irish)
Jake: crazy —
jammed: I'll be jim- —
jang: jing — (onom.)
jazz: — baby, yea — bo (both, joy or exult.)
Jeans: — Rice (Maine), my —
jeeze (Main Street)
Jehosophat: —, holy jumping —
jellybeans: holy jumping —
Jerusalem: —, holy —
Jesus: —, oh — Christ, — H. Christ, holy jumping — Christ
jibbers: by —
jigger: —, holy —, by —s, oh —s, I'll be —ed (surp.)
jim-jam: I'll be —ed
jim-swiggled: I'll be —d
jimminy (Gemini): (oh) —, by —, — Christmas, — crickets (all surp. or vex.)
jing: by —, — jang, I — (Riley)
jingo: by —, oh —, — putty (Clayton, N. Y.)
jinks: by —
jobers: by —
John: honest to — (= on my word)
jolly: by — (surp.)
Joseph: jumping —
Josie: oh — (Clayton, N. Y.)
Jove: by —
joy: oh —
Judas: — Priest (Maine)
juleps: jumping — (surp. or vex.)
jumping: — geraniums, holy — Jesus Christ, holy — jellybeans, — Joseph, — Jehosophat, — juleps, — Jupiter (all, surp. or vex.), — Moses on a blue raft, in the mountains, in a benzine buggy, etc. (New York) — scarabs (com.), great — grasshopper (com.)

Jupiter: (oh) —, by —, holy —, jumping —
ka-chew (sneeze)
kee-rap (surp.: Penn.)
ke-whack (onom.)
kee, hee (laugh.: com.)
ker choo (sneeze)
kerplunk (onom.)
kid: atta — (= atta boy)
Kidd: shades of Captain —
kitten: chilled — (approv.: Maine)
ki-yee (call: com.)
ki-yi (call: dog yelping)
kiyooey (call: com.)
klaak (onom., sound of bird)
klank (onom., sound of metal)
klink (onom., sound of metal)
konk (onom., motor car)
konolia: sweet — (joy: Penn.)
know: I want to —
la, la: — —, ooh — —, tra — —
lá-de-dá
lady: oh — (surp.)
land: (good) — (s), (good) — of Goshen (Garland), (good) — of love, — of goodness, hail Columbia happy —, my —, — no, — yes, (for) —'s sake, (good) —'s sakes alive
law: (oh) —, my —
lawdy oh—, — —, oh my —
lawsamassa or *lawse-a-massy* (= Lord have mercy: south of U. S.)
life: not on your —
lightning: thunder and —
lips: hot — (joy: Mo.)
little fishes
lo
Lo(h)d-a-massa
Lord: oh —, — almighty, by the —, — deliver us, good —, great —, (the) — help me, us, etc., —-a-massy, — have mercy, my —, for the —'s sake, (the) — preserve me, us, etc., — save me, us, etc., thank the —, (most denote worry or consternation).
Lordie: oh —
love: for the — of Davy Jones, for the — of earth, for the — of God, for the — of heaven, for the — of Lulu, for the — of Mike, for the — of mud, for the — of peace, for the — of Pete, good land of —, my word of —
luck: bad — to you, blame the (my) —, (God) bless the (my) —, confound the —, consider the —, curse (cuss) the —, (God) damn the —, (gol) darn the —, dash the —, drat the —, demn the —, (gol) ding the —, (gol or gosh) durn the —, hang the —, torment the —, dod souse the —
Lud: (oh) —

Lulu: for the love of —
lullaby
m-: —, — -m
m-mp
ma (sound of lamb)
Mabel: oh —; my word, — (surp.)
mackerel: holy — (surp.)
Mackinaw: holy — (surp., Maine)
mamma: oh — (surp.), sweet — (joy: Penn.)
man: oh —, — alive (surp.)
Maria: Helen —, Hell and — (vex. and surp.)
Mary: holy —, in the name of —, oh — Ann
mastiff: hot — (surp., joy)
mass: by the —
massa: lo(h)d-a- —
massy: lawse-a- —, Lord-a —
me: believe —; believe —, Steve; God bless —, dear —, deliver —, — eye (surp., incred.), gracious —, oh —; oh —, oh my; oh dearie — (sor. or worry), woe is —.
meow (sound of cat)
merciful: — goodness, — heavens
mercy: (oh) —, (oh) — goodness, God (Lord) have —, — me, — on me, us, etc., for —'s sake, of all the —ies (Garland)
Merry Christmas (surp.)
Mike: for the love of —, sure —
Minerva: my word — (Cooperstown, N. Y.)
mine: baby —
mischief: the, the — you say, what in the—
misery: oh —
mīst: — alchrīty (New York)
mither: holy — (Irish)
mittens: the horse's — (surp.: Maine)
molasses: oh —
moo (sound of cow)
more: for ever — (surp., vex.)
morning: good — (surp., vex.)
Moses: golly —, holy — (both surp. or vex.), jumping — on a blue raft, (in the mountains, in the benzine buggy, etc.: New York)
mother: holy —, shades of my dear —
mud: gee —, for the love of — (both vex.)
mudhens: holy — (surp.)
murder: (oh) —
murderation
my: (oh) —, (disp., worry), (oh) — eye (incred., vex.), oh —, oh me; oh me, oh —; (oh) — God, (oh) — goodness, — hat (= not at all), — land, — law, (oh) — Lord, — stars, — word, — word of love, — word Minnie, Matilda, Minerva, Miranda, Mary, Martha, Mabel, etc.: (Cooperstown, N. Y.) upon — word
n-n

name: in the — of common sense (surp., vex.), in the — of God, in God's —, in the — of all that's good and beautiful, in heaven's —, in the — of heaven, in the — of Mary, in the — of sin,
nay, nay, Pauline
Nell's bells (for hell's bells)
night: good —, good — shirt, good — nurse (all surp. or vex.)
nix or *nixy* (= no)
no: —? (surp. and incred.), —siree bob (disapprov.)
nonsense: —, stuff and — (disap.)
not: — on your life, on your tintype (both = not at all)
now: (—) — (warning), there — (said to quiet some one), whoa —, (to make horse stop)
num, num, nummy, num (humming or joy)
O. Henry (surp.: New York)
oh: —, — ho (call)
oo(h): — (surp. or disap.), — baby, — hoo (call), — woo (dog: com.), — la la, — ta ta
oochie-oochie (incred.)
ooff: — (pain, shock: com.), — — (dog barking)
ook (amazement and stupor)
oomp (disg.: com.)
oop (pain, shock: com.)
ooy
ouch (cry of pain)
ouk-ee (bray of mule)
ow: —, — — — (cry of pain)
owf (com.)
owg (com.)
oy: —, — yoy
pajama: cat's —s (approv.: Maine)
papa: oh —, sweet — (surp.)
pat: pit —, pit-a- —
patooty: sweet — (com.)
Pat's: for — sake
Paul Jones: shades of — —
peace: for the love of —
pee(p)-pee(p) (sound of chicks)
peepers: blast my bloomin' —
Pete: for the love of —, for —'s sake
Peter: goodness — (Garland)
pfut, pfut (beating of heart: com.)
phew
phoo-oy (com.)
pickle: for —'s sake (com.)
piff: — and suffering sea-serpents
piffle
ping: — —, — pong (onom., sound of blow)
pipers: holy — (surp.)

pish: —, — tush
pit-a-pat
pity: for —('s) sake
plague: (a) — on you, her, it, etc., — take you, her, it, etc.
plang (onom.: com.)
plank: plink- — -plunk (sound of a musical instrument)
plop (sound of fall: com.)
plump (sound of blow)
plunk: plink-plank- —, plunkety- —
plunkety-plunk
poo(h): —, — — (disg.)
pop: —, (onom.); bing, —, bop (succession of blows); ginger — (surp. or vex.)
poot (disg.)
poppy cock (incred.)
pow: (sound of blow: com.)
p-r-r (sound of cat purring)
pr-r-r (shivering with cold)
preserve: heaven — me, us, etc., Lord — me, us, etc.
priest: Judas — (Maine)
psch-h-h (= hush)
pshaw (incred. or disg.)
ps-s-s (= hush)
pst (= hush)
puf-puf or *poof-poof* (sound of man panting)
puff: fluffy —
pugh (disg.)
puppie: hot —
putty: jingo —
quack-quack (sound of a duck)
r-r-r (growling of dog or bear)
radish: horse — (disg.: Penn.)
raft: jumping Moses on a blue — (New York)
rah, rah, rah (college yell)
ramblety bam (noise: com.)
ramshackled: I'll be —
ráp-a-tap-táp (drum: onom.)
raspberries: —, — to razz (incred.)
rat-tat-tat or *rat-a-tat-tat* (drum.: onom.)
rat: the —'s rubbers (surp.: Maine), —s (incred., disg.)
ray (= hooray)
razz: raspberries to —
razzle-dazzle (joy)
rent-day: holy —
Rice: Jeans — (Maine)
righto (= all right)
Rip Van Winkle: shades of — — —
root: thunder and gimpson —

rot: —, dad — him, it, etc., dod — him, it, etc.
rowdy dow (Maine)
rub-a-dub-dub (onom: drum)
rubbers: the rat's — (surp.: Maine)
rubbish (= nonsense)
s-s-s (sound of hissing, or to call attention)
sainted: my — grandmother (surp.)
saints: holy —, suffering —
sake: for Christ's —, criminy —s alive (surp.: Maine), for crimp's —, (for) God's —, (for) goodness —s alive, (for) goodness' — or —s, for gosh'es —, (for) heaven's —, (for) land's —, for the Lord's — or for the Lord —s, (for) mercy's —, for Pat's —, for Pete's —, for pickle's — (com.), for pity's —, —s alive, my goodness —, good land's —s alive
Sam: what in the — Hill
sardine: the —'s whiskers (surp.: Maine)
sassafras: suffering — (com.)
sauce: oh apple — (surp.)
save: — me, us, etc., God — me, us, etc., Heaven — me, us, etc., Lord — me, us, etc.
say: I'd —, I'll — (both approv.), the mischief you — (incred.)
scarabs: jumping — (com.)
scat: — (to drive away cats), oh — (derision)
scissors: thunder and — (Garland)
Scott: great —, good —
sea-serpents: piff and suffering —
sea-weeds: suffering —
seen: well of all things — and heard or — and unseen
sense: my —s (surp.), in the name of common — (surp., vex.)
sh-h-h or *sh-sh* (to urge silence)
siree: no — bob (disapprov.)
shades: — of Captain Kidd, — of my dear mother, — of the departed Greeks, ye — of P. T. Barnum, — of Paul Jones, — of Rip Van Winkle
shally: shilly —
shame: —, for —, — on you, for — on you
shaw: see *pshaw*
shilly shally
shiver my timbers
shoot: oh —, — it (both disap.)
shot: I'll be —
shucks (surp. and disap.)
sin: in the name of —
sis-boom: — · — ah, — · — bah (college yells)
skidoo (anger)
sizzling Susan (surp.)
slam (onom.)
sleeping: — cripe (New York)
slippery: ye — suds (com.)
slush (incred., disapprov.)

smack (kiss)
small: ye gods and — blue fishes
smithereens: blast it to—
smoke: holy — (surp. or vex.)
snails: great crawling —
snakes: holy —, suffering —s, the —'s hips (approv.: Maine)
sniff (crying: com.)
snooks: holy —, (oh) —
so: you don't say — (surp.), I'll say — (agreement)
so or — — (to call cows)
sock: hot — (joy: New York)
sock-o (onom.)
so-ho (call or surp.)
some: — stuff (approv.: Ind.)
soul: bless by, your, etc. —, damn my, etc. —, God bless my, etc.,—, upon my —
soup (consternation)
souse: dod — the luck
splash (sound of falling water)
splut (sound of spluttering pen)
squash: oh —
squee: —, — wee (sound of pig)
st (warn. or admon.)
stars: my — (surp.), bless my — (surp.), confound my — (ang.) curse my — (ang.) my — and garters (surp.)
sticks: fiddle — (incred.)
stuff: — and nonsense (incred.), some — (approv.: Ind.)
suds: ye slippery —
suffering: — cats, — catfish (vex.: Penn.). piff and — sea-serpents, — saints, — sassafras (com.), — sea-weeds (com.), — snakes
sugar: oh — (vex. or disap.)
sure Mike (approval)
Susan: sizzling — (surp.)
swab my decks (com.)
swan: by —, I — (surp., vex.)
swear: I—, I — to God (Garland), I — to heaven
sweet: — baby, — cats (surp.), — cheesecakes (N. Y. City) — cookie (joy: Penn.), — daddy (surp.), —Gabriel, — konolia (joy: Penn.), — mama (joy: Penn.), — Marie, — papa (surp.), — patooty (joy or approv.)
swigger: I'll be —ed, I'll be dig- —ed, my —s
swiggle: I'll be jim- —
swish (onom.)
Swiss cheese: holy — (com.)
switch: I'll be —ed
Switzerland: good —
swoosh (onom.)
ta-ta (= goodbye)
tabasco: hot — (surp., vex.: Maine)

take: (the) deuce — it, you, etc., (the) devil — it, etc., (the) plague — it, etc.
tara(ra)-boom-de-ay (shout of joy)
tch, tch (vex., disg.)
tee-hee (joy)
tell: do — (surp.), I'll — the world (agreement)
thank: — God, — goodness, — heaven, — me, — the Lord
that a boy (cf. atta boy)
there: — (satisfaction), hey —, hi —, — —, — now (to quiet some one), whoa — (to stop some one or something)
things: (well) of all — (seen and heard, or seen and unseen)
thousand: a — curses
thrash (Riley)
thrills: oh — (joy)
thump (onom.: com.)
thunder: —, — and blixen, — and gimpson root (Garland), — and lightning, — and scissors (Garland)
thunderation
tick: — — (sound of typewriter), —-tack or —-tock (sound of clock)
timbers: blast my —, shiver my —
ting (sound of metal)
tink-tink (sound of metal)
tip-tip-tip (sound of motor)
tintype: not on your —
tlot-tlot (horses hoofs: Main Street)
tommyrot (disg.)
toot-toot (sound of horn or whistle)
torment: — it, — the luck
towel: hot — (joy: Penn.)
tra-la(-la) (incred. or merely humming)
tripe: wriggling — (surp.)
trot-trot (sound of horse trotting)
tuck: (onom.)
tuh, tuh
tum-tiddy-um
tush (incred.): —, pish —
tut (tut) (disapprov., vex.)
tweet-tweet (sound of birds twittering; of train whistling, Main Street)
twice: greesus — (Ind.)
uff (com.)
ug(h), ugg (disg.)
uh-h (disg.)
uh-húh (= yes, or I told you so)
úh-uh (negation)
ulk (onom.: choking: com.)
ulp (dismay: com.)
ump: — (surp.), — ta-ta (onom. dancing)
umpty—umpty (disap.)

unseen: well of all things seen and —
úpida, úpidee
up: whoa —
upon: — my conscience, — my soul, — my word
very: the — idea (surp., incred.)
Virgin: Holy —
vow: I —
waak (onom.: choking: com.)
wa-hee (sound of donkey)
wa-hoo
wah
wah-haw (laughter: com.)
wam (onom.: blow)
wanga-wanga (Penn.)
want: I — to know
wee: —, squee — (onom.: pig, monkey, etc.)
well: — (used before many expressions), — now, — — (surp.)
whack: — (sound of a blow) che- — (shake hands, Riley)
wham (blow: com.)
whee: — (surp. or approv.: com.) — oo
whew (surp., relief)
whillicats: gee — (surp.)
whillikers: gee — (surp.)
whillikins: gee (surp.)
whiskers: the sardine's — (surp.: Maine)
whist (= hush)
whittakers: gee —
whiz: dear — (surp.: Ind.), gee —
whizzle: gimminy — cats, gee —
whoa: — (call to work animals). — now (admon.), — there (= stop that)
who-ee or *whooie* (surp., com.)
who-la (call)
whoop-ee (joy)
whoop-la (joy)
whoops(ee) (joy, com.)
why: —, — the idea (both surp.)
woe: oh —, —'s me, — unto me, you, etc.
woo
woof-woof (sound of dog barking)
woomp (surp. or blow: com.)
woops (surp.: com.)
word: (oh) my —, my — of love, my — Minnie, Matilda, Minerva, Miranda, Mary, Martha, Mabel (Cooperstown, N. Y., 1920) upon my —
world: I'll tell the —
worry: I should — (indifference)
wow: — (blow, pain), — -wow (sound of dog barking, or baby crying)
wowie (alarm)

wriggling tripe (surp.)
wump, or *wup* (sound of blow: com.)
yah, yah, yah (call)
yahoo or *ya-hoo* (call)
ye: — gods, — gods and little fishes, — gods and small blue fishes, — guides (com.), — slippery suds (com.)
yea: — bo, — boy, — jazz bo (all joy)
yeow (surp., fear)
yes: —, — siree, land —
yi, yi (shout of triumph)
yip-ee (shout of triumph), yip, yip — (cowboy's shout)
yip: — (joy: com.), — — (sound of dog yelping), — — yipee, (cowboy's shout)
yo: —; — ho, (ho) (calls)
yoodle (joy)
yoo-ee (joy: com.)
yoof (com.)
yoo-hoo (call)
you: oh — (surp. or disap.)
yow: — (com.), — hoo (com.)
yow-yow (sound of baby crying: com.)
yowp (dog: com.)
yum, yum (satisfaction)
yump (sound of blow: com.)
z-z-z (sound of whispering or snoring)
zam: — (sound of blow: com), bam — (sound of blow: com.)
zickety boom
ziggety: hot — damn (surp., com.)
zing (= crash)
zip (= make haste or sound of blow)
zounds (lit.)
zowie (sound of blow: com.)

OLDER ENGLISH EXCLAMATIONS

I

The following are taken from Sheridan's *Rivals* and *School for Scandal*, and give some idea of the fashion in English exclamations about one hundred and fifty years ago. Note the common substitutes for God: "gad" and "od(d)." It is interesting to observe that some of the exclamations are as artificial and exaggerated as any we find nowadays in the comic papers. Note, for instance, the longer exclamations given below under "odd".

eek: (sound of one choking)
gad: e—, 'fore —, —'s life, —so
hah
heaven: 'fore —
hey (call)
holla
lack: good —
life: my — on't, odds my —, odds —, Gad's —, 's—
lud: o —
mass: by the —
od(d): —'s life, —'s my life, —'s heart, —'s death, — rabbit it, —so, —'s blushes and blooms, —'s crickets, —'s minnums and crotchets, —'s swimmings, —'s frogs and tambours, —'s triggers and flints, —'s hilts and blades
oons
plagues and tortures
so, so
sworn: I'll be —
z-ds (= zounds)
zooks
zop (onom., sound of blows)
zounds (= God's wounds)

II

The following are taken from Shakespeare's plays. The list is far from complete, but it gives some idea of the fashion in English exclamations a little over three hundred years ago. Note the use of *od(d)* for "God" and of *'s* or *z* for "God's." Many of the exclamations in this list are in use at the present time.

alack
alas
bless: — me, Jesus — us
blood: 's— (= God's blood)
bodykin:
brimstone: fire and —
certes
cock: by — and pye
faith: i' —, in —, by my —, s'—
fie or *fye* (on him, on't, etc.)
fire and brimstone
felly-fally
forbid: Heaven —, God —
God: by —, — forgive, — forbid, —'s body, for the love of —, —-a-mercy, for —'s sake, oh —
gramercies

ha: —, — —
hand: my —
hang: I'll be —ed
heigh: —, — -ho
heartlings: od's —
heaven: by —, o' the —s, oh —, — forbid, oh —ly powers, for —'s sake
ho: o —, heigh —, what —
hoa: what —
honor: by mine —
hum
indeed
Janus: by —
Jesu(s): — bless us, oh —
Jove bless thee
la
lady: by 's —
lakin: by 'r —
life: o' my —
light: 's —
Lord: by the —, oh —
marry
mass: by the —
mercy: God-a- —, — on us, for —
night: good —
now: — —
od(d)'s heartlings
patience: by your —
Patrick: by Saint —
pish
pity: for —
plague: a — on thee
powers: oh heavenly —
pox: a — o' that
prythee (= pray thee)
rood: by the —
sake: for heaven's —
Saint Patrick: by — —
sooth: '—, for —
s'wounds or *'swounds*
tilly-vally
troth: —, by (my) —, o, my —
trow: I —
truth: in —
tush: —, — —
tut
vengeance: o —
well: — —, — a day
what: — ho

whew
why
yare, yare
zounds (= God's wounds)

III

The following exclamations are taken from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales,* and are illustrative of the fashion in English exclamations more than five hundred years ago. Some of these are in common use today in American English, such as: *aha, for Christ's sake, for the love of Christ, fie, Jesus, Jesus Christ, by God, for the love of God, good God, God bless you, God forbid, God help me, in God's name, for God's sake, thank heaven, ho, oh Lord, o mercy, for shame. tee-hee, etc.*

aha
alas
armes: (by) Goddes —
avoy
blesse: God — him so God you —, God his soul —, —d be God
blisful: o — God
blood: by nailes and by —
bones: by Goddes —, for cockes —
Christ: for —'s sake, o Jesu —, —es swete tree, —es foot
cockes: for — bones
corpus: by — Domini, by the precious — Madrian, by Goddes —
cross: by the —
cuckow: — —
Denis: Saint — of France
dignitee: by Goddes —
divil of Helle
Domini: by corpus —
faith: by my —, in —
father: by my —'s soul
fay
fiend: the foul — him quelle
foot: Christes —
forbede: God —
foul: the — fiend him quelle
France: Saint Denis of —
fy or *fie*
Gile: by Saint —
God: by —, by —des armes, so — you bless, blessed be —, — blesse him, o blisful —, by —des bones, by —des corpus, by —des dignitee, — forbede, goode —, — help me, so help me —, by high — above, for the love of —, —des love, in —des name, for —des sake, by — and by Saint

Jame, by — and Saint Martin, so — me save, — save you, — his soul blesse, by —des soul

goode God
grand mercy
harow
heaven: thank —, by — king
Helle: divil of —
help: God — me
ho
holy: by the — sacrament
James: by God and Saint —
Jesu(s): (o) — Christ, by —, for — love
John: by seint —
king: by heaven —
lady: by our —
lo
Lord: o —, almighty —
love: for Goddes —, for the — of God, for the — of Christ
Madrian: by the precious corpus —
Marie: by Seinte —
Martin: God and Saint —
Mary
mercy: o —, grand —
nailes: by — and by blood
Neote: by Saint —
Parde
Paules: by Seinte — belle
precious: by the — corpus Madrian
quelle: the foul fiend him —
Romon: by seint —
sacrament: by the holy —
sake: for Goddes —
Saint: by — Gile, God and — Martin (— Jame)
save: so God me —, God — you
seint(e): by — John, by — Paules belle, by — Romon, by — Thomas, by — Marie
shame: for —
sooth: for —
soul: by my father's —
swete: Christes — tree
te he (laugh)
Termagaunt: by —
thanke: — heaven
Thomas: by seint —
tree: Christes swete —
troth: upon my —
wala wa

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INTERJECTIONS FROM SOUTHEASTERN NEBRASKA

[The following expressions among a large number reported by E. P. Conkle are additional to those listed by Professor E. C. Hills.—*Editor.*]

bat: ding — it
berries: the —
bugs
crinus: by —
gar: by —
cold puppies
donner und blitzen
douce: the —
drot: dad — it
eek
edads
fetch: dad — it
figs
forevermore
gam, gan, gern, gon, or *gum:* dad — it
ginger blue bird
girlie: oh —
heavenly day
hist
hot tamale
huzzah
peanuts: oh —
poodle: oh —
posh
prunes: oh —
rummy: oh —
sweet: — potato, — petunia
Virgin Mary
whiff
woman alive
yeh ho

E. P. Conkle.

NOTES ON CAPE COD DIALECT

Cape Cod, situated as it is geographically, nearly surrounded by water, has, like most isolated regions, preserved its language, endowing us with a dialect rich in its colorful expressions. Remnants of medieval English still linger, as for example in the word 'housen', the plural for 'house'. Or again, in the village of Wellfleet it is possible to hear "Youmes goin' the wrong way, mister, wemes'l show you the road." These forms, common enough in the Elizabethan period, are fast becoming obsolete, and with the passing of the older generation, who are the sole users of these forms, doubtless they will become extinct, for the younger generation seldom if ever employ them.

In their games, as well as elsewhere, the children have unique expressions. When Isaiah has lost all of his marbles he has been 'screened of his miglets'. 'Fat Cat' is a concentrated form of leap frog, where the leapers approach the side of a barn, and continue leaping upon one another.

Just why knee-length leather boots should be called 'codheads' has always puzzled me, yet that is the sole name by which these articles of dress are called by the natives of the Cape, though in these days the gum boot is taking the place of the old leather 'codhead'. The hip-length gum boot is called 'longlegger', a name which is quite appropriate.

Who would ever guess that 'hog's back son of a bitch' was a delectable dish common in most New England households under a more dignified name? It is nothing more than boiled salt codfish, over which scraps of pork are placed. One can imagine where the 'hog's back' part comes from, but the latter is more difficult to understand. It is commonly designated as such on shipboard, and several times I have heard the name used in what are considered good respectable households. Few grocers outside of Cape Cod would know what to produce when someone asked for a gallon of 'Porty Reek long lick'. But a real Cape Codder would know that a gallon of Porto Rico molasses was desired.

One would have to go a long way to find terms applicable to weather conditions described in such picturesque phrases as are used on Cape Cod. When the sun comes forth during a summer

shower, the devil is said to be fighting with his wife. A smurry i. e., hazy breeze from the southwest is commonly called a 'yellow eyed sou'wester', perhaps owing to the dirty colored atmosphere accompanying a sou-wester. The density of fog is often referred to as being 'thicker 'n a baboon'. Just what the significance of the word baboon is remains somewhat of a mystery, and in fact the natives who use it are unable to account for the peculiar expression.

Many of the phrases are of a descriptive nature. The surface of the ocean when whipped by a heavy gale is said to be 'feather white'. And in truth one's imagination does not have to be strained very far to imagine the frothy surface as white feathers blown over a barn floor. Snowflakes are also spoken of as feathers in the expression used by many of the old inhabitants during a light snowfall, "Jehovah is plucking his geese for dinner." Likewise we find a ride in a small boat which is being towed behind a large boat referred to as a 'Nantucket sleigh ride', tho originally the phrase was used in the whaling industry, and was applied to a whaleboat being towed behind a whale to which it had made itself fast.

'Muscular Christianity' is, as one might easily guess, a method by which one individual asserts his doctrines to another. A meeting where everyone is talking and no one is listening is commonly called a 'Portuguese Parliament'. A shiftless type of person is said not to 'amount to Hannah Cook'. Hannah Cook was an old character that existed on the end of the Cape for many years, and tho long since dead her name has lived on in the above phrase, common in every household on the end of the Cape. A 'summer complaint' is not any disease which presents itself during the summer; instead it is a name applied by the natives to summer residents.

The ordinary language of the Cape is unusually rich in metaphorical expressions, some of which are amusing. When one gets angry he is 'all hair by the nose'. One old seaman desiring to emphasize the truth of a story he was telling did so with the following oath "That's the truth, so help me, or I hope my eyes will fall into my hat and turn into bull-dogs, and tear the throat out o' me." The old coasters which plied the coast were referred to as the 'Appletree fleet', and the saying was they never got out of sight of the orchards along the shore. All

diving birds are called 'devil divers'. A marsh heron is a 'squawk' by reason of the noise it makes when disturbed. Jelly fish are 'sunsqualls' for some unknown reason, and a sculpin is a 'scalawag'. A power boat is a 'gasoliner'. It is interesting to note that this word has been coined only since the advent of gasoline as a source of power for boats, whereas now it is as common as the name steamer.

Cap Cod has its own pronunciations for certain words, as for example 'goal' is pronounced as 'gool', 'weir' as tho it were 'wire', 'butcher' is 'boocher' and 'surf' is pronounced 'surve'.

Fish nets are called 'lint'. If a boat returns with a load of fish, it has a 'barm of fish'; but if it returns empty, then it has a 'load o' corkstopples'.

From these scanty gleanings taken at random from the speech of the native inhabitants it is evident that Cape Cod offers a rich and fertile community for the further investigation of dialect.

HENRY J. JAMES.

SIMILE AND METAPHOR: ADDENDA.

[The following expressions are offered as additional examples of direct or implied comparison to be added to the article by G. L. Hanford in *Dialect Notes*, V, 149-180.—*Editor.*]

ace, in *within an ace of,* adv. phr. "I came *within an ace of* getting caught." Connecticut.

ante, n. (poker slang.) Fee. "You'll have to raise the *ante* to get him."

bats in the belfry, n. phr. Crazy.

bee in one's bonnet, n. phr. Fixed idea.

beat around the bush, v. phr. Roundabout approach.

beat the devil around the stump, v. phr. To find a way of doing something you have promised not to do.

bold as brass.

bounce, "the g. b." (for "grand bounce" = discharge).

bushel, in *not by a bushel and a half* (="not by a long shot")

butter, in *butter wouldn't melt in his mouth.* Said of one feigning innocence. Compare *mealy-mouthed.*

buck, in *to pass the buck,* v. phr. To shift responsibility.

brown, in *dark brown taste,* n. phr.

bulge, in *to have the bulge on somebody,* v. phr. To have the advantage.

cake, in *to take the cake.* Term for extreme approbation or disparagement. "Well, that certainly *takes the cake!*"

cash in, v. To die. Also, *cash in* one's checks.

call (somebody's) *bluff,* v. phr. Poker slang. To make a person come out with the truth.

cheek, n. Impudence. "Well, of all the *cheek*!"

cheeky, adj.

cheese, in *the big cheese,* n. phr. An important person.

cheese it, v. phr. A warning to escape speedily. "*Cheese it,* fellows the cop's comin'!"

chicken, n. Female of somewhat doubtful virtue.

chin-music, n. Talk. (Mark Twain, "Roughing It.")

clod-hopper, n. Farmer; boor; lout.

cold feet, n. phr. "To get cold feet" may mean to be scared out of something.

cold, adj. "I've got that down *cold,*" i. e. perfect, straight.

crab, v. i. To complain. "Quit your *crabbing*!"

crab, n. A grouchy person.

cross as two sticks, adj. phr.

cuckoo, n. Expression of admiration. "You certainly are a cuckoo." (Accent on the first syllable, u as in full.)

cut out, v. To rob a boy of his sweetheart. "Jack went in and *cut him out* in a week."

dirt, in *do somebody dirt,* v. phr. To treat badly. "He sure *did you dirt.*"

dolled up, adj. Dressed up (like a doll). "My, you're *all dolled up.*"

fire, v. To dismiss from one's employ. "The old man caught Bill spooning with Jane and *fired* him."

fire away, v. i. Same as shoot; go ahead.

fat-head, n. Person of small intelligence.

fish, in *poor fish,* n. phr. Contemptible person.

flat as dish-water, adj. phr.

freeze on to, v. t. To hold tightly. "If the ball comes your way, you *freeze on to* it."

fuss, v. i. To go out with girls. "Jack's out *fussing* tonight."

get one's goat, v. t. To make angry. "That certainly *gets my goat.*"

glad rags, n. phr. Best or fine clothes. "Put on your *glad rags,* we're going to dance tonight."

goat, be the, v. phr. (From scapegoat?) To be the butt; to have the blame fastened on one.

go up the flume. v. phr. Same as go up the spout. (Mark Twain, "Roughing It.")

gospel-mill, n. Church, mission. ("Roughing It.")

gospel-sharp, n. Preacher, minister. (Ibid.)

greased lightning, n. phr. "He went like *greased lightning.*" Hence also, a streak of *greased lightning.*

green, in *green as grass,* adj. phr. Inexperienced; fresh. "That freshman is *green as grass.*"

grit, n. Courage, endurance, backbone. "A long distance runner has to have *grit.*" Cf. sand.

gritty, adj.

hair, in by a *hair,* or, by a *hair's* breadth, prep. phr. Denoting extreme proximity.

hard boiled, adj. Same as *tough.*

hayseed, n. Farmer.

hard as nails, adj. phr.

higher 'n a kite.

high, in *how's that for high?* ("Roughing It.")

hit a barn door, v. phr. Same as hit a balloon.

hit the high spots, v. phr. Skim over something in superficial way.

homely enough to stop a clock, adj. phr. Also, "the girl would stop a clock."

horn, in *toot one's own horn,* p. phr. To boast, sing one's own praise. "That boy likes to *toot his own horn.*"

horse, in *get off your high horse,* v. phr. Stop "putting on airs."

hot time, n. Excitement. "There'll be a *hot time* in the old town tonight." Slang.

ice, in *cut ice,* v. phr. To be of impressive importance. "If you haven't got the price, then you don't *cut any ice.*" Used chiefly in the negative for disparagement.

keel over, v. phr. To fall down; to faint.

keep your hair on, v. phr. Same as keep your shirt on.

kick like a steer, v. phr. To protest vigorously.

knock the stuffing(s) out of, v. phr.

lily-livered, adj. White-livered, cowardly. [An interesting survival.]

make a spoon or spoil a horn. This is the correct order of the phrase.

meaner than dirt, adj. phr.

mitten, in *to give the mitten,* v. phr. To dismiss as a suitor. "Hennie gave him the *mitten* last night."

nigger in the woodpile. Phrase seems badly explained. Reference is to a circumstance or factor that is not evident or has escaped discovery.

off one's base, adj. phr. Mistaken; crazy.

off one's trolley, adj. phr. Same as foregoing.

paint the town red, v. phr. To indulge in wild hilarity.

pebble in *not the only pebble on the beach.*

pie-face, n. "He's a regular *pie-face.*" Allusion is to pasty look of pie-crust; implication is dullness.

pony, n. Translation. "He gets a good mark, because he always has a *pony* in class with him.

prune, n. Undesirable person. Same as lemon.

pudding-head, n. same as fat-head. Mark Twain, "Pudd'nhead Wilson."

pull one's leg, v. phr. Deceive; demand money.

put a flea in one's ear, v. phr. To give a person a scolding. "I sent him some with a *flea in his ear.*"

raise out, v. phr. Poker slang. "That *raises me out*", i. e. that's too much for me, I can't go so far.

red, n. A communist, anarchist, radical.

red. adj. Same connotation.

Robin Hood's barn. Same as Robinson's barn.

Sam Hill, "That weighs like *Sam Hill.*" (Kipling, "Walking Delegate.")

screw loose, n. phr. Mental aberration. "He has a *screw loose.*"

shake, v. t. Get rid of. "I tried to *shake* him, but I couldn't."

smoke like a chimney.

swipe, v. t. To steal.

sponge, v. i. To play parasite. "Folks are always *sponging* on me."

sponge, in *throw up the sponge,* v. phr. To give up a struggle or fight.

spoon, v. i. To kiss and caress.

spoon-holder, n. Any bench large enough for two persons.

straight as a die, adj. phr.

tackle, v. t. To take hold of, attempt. (Football.)

take to the woods, v. phr.

tight as a drum, adj. phr.

trot, v. and n. Same as pony. q. v. "Why is Caesar's bridge over the Rhine weak?" "Because it has been *trotted* over so often."

true blue, adj. phr. Very faithful.

twosing, n. Going in couples. "No *twosing* after ten o'clock."

white, adj. Opposite of yellow (as descriptive of character).

white cap, n. Breakers (sea-shore); white top on a wave. "The whole surface of the water was covered with *white caps.*"

yellow, adj. Lacking in courage, manliness, honesty, etc. "That fellow has a *yellow* streak."

B. Q. Morgan.

J. S. KENYON'S *AMERICAN PRONUNCIATION*: A REVIEW.

The title of Professor Kenyon's book* suggests, perhaps, a work somewhat like Professor Krapp's *The Pronunciation of Standard English in America.* As a matter of fact, its scope is much wider. Although less concerned with dialectal peculiarities, it contains more of the material needed by the beginner in linguistic study, and includes, in addition to the necessary discussion of phonetic principles, a chapter on the history of the language, a very careful and thorough treatment of the subject of gradation, with tabulated examples, and chapters on spelling, versification, accent, and sense-stress. It will be found useful in courses in Phonetics, English Usage, and History of the English Language, or as a reference book for teachers and students of language.

But although it is designed for the use of elementary students, the book contains material of interest to all students of phonetics, for instance the study of gradation referred to above, new observations on a number of minor points, and an analysis of "the Western *r,* " which Henry James shudderingly described as having "the small vulgar effect of a sort of morose grinding of the back teeth." Professor Kenyon maintains that this sound as it appears in such stressed syllables as *hurt* and *stir* is not a consonant, but a vowel, and provides a separate symbol for it. The system of transcription employed, while it differs little from that of the International Phonetic Association, has several new features in addition to the one just mentioned. It requires fewer marks of length and especially of stress, uses only two diacritics (for infrequent sounds, English *o* as in *not* and the New England short *o* as in *coat*), and is thus, while close enough for ordinary purposes, easier to read and write. The accent mark is put after the syllable rather than before, but this, as Professor Grandgent points out, is an advantage, as it is often very difficult in English to tell just where a syllable begins. Some people may criticise the use of *hw* for "the voiceless sound of *w*," as in *white,* but the symbol is at least as

* *American Pronunciation, a Text-Book of Phonetics for Students of English.* By John Samuel Kenyon, Ph.D. George Wahr, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1924.

satisfactory as any other. Others may feel, as I do, that the prevalence of the æ sound in such a word as *there* is exaggerated, but as both pronunciations of the word are very common, the question must remain one merely of opinion. In general the book contains little to criticise and much to admire. It is not only a useful text book, but a valuable contribution to our knowledge of American speech.

Especially noteworthy, however, is the definite purpose for which the book was written. It is intended to be used in the freshman English course in college, where, indeed, its material has been used by Professor Kenyon for a number of years, the instruction supplanting the other work of the freshman course for a period of eight or nine weeks.

The idea is an interesting one, and worthy of serious attention. Although everyone agrees that the freshman English course is one of the most important in the curriculum, and should be one of the most practical, there has been almost equally universal agreement that the results attained are often incommensurate with the energy expended. The reasons given for this failure are, of course, various. Composition teachers are underpaid, overworked, and (as is usually the case with cheap labor) inefficient; the high schools are to blame, etc. Surely one of the chief causes is the lack of solid principles behind the instruction. Why should—or possibly why shouldn't—the charge of charlatanism be brought against courses in the art of writing almost as frequently as they are against courses in the arts of teaching and of public speaking? After a certain amount of preliminary drill in grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and outlining has been passed over, the composition course seems to become a sort of happy hunting ground for the literary dilettante or for some one of the various kinds of purists: (I borrow Professor Krapp's useful classification) The Temperamental Conservatives, The Faithful Blind, The Auto-Intoxicated, The Irrational Impulsive, or The Linguistic Self-Righteous. All are zealous, but most are badly informed. Teachers of the first class give instruction in the short-story, or, following the present vogue for creative everything,—from creative criticism to creative listening—in "Creative Writing." Teachers of the other group, who are in many cases still teaching composition because they have quailed before the linguistic requirements for the doctorate,

are none the less valiant in inculcating their favorite verbal taboos, perhaps "to be graduated," "somebody's else hat," or the broad *A* for some half dozen selected words. (The struggle against *reliable* has been given up only since the word disappeared from the later editions of Hill's Rhetoric.) It is not only hopeless to try to teach usage or pronunciation one word at a time, without any principles by which the student can be guided, but it is very dangerous, at least to those students who share the teacher's simple faith in the heinousness of the prohibited expressions. The present writer, remembering the efforts of one of his own teachers to force her students to say "somebody's else hat," and pronounce the noun *subject* with the full value of the vowel as in *let*, is inclined to feel that not the least important function of such a book as the one under discussion is to provide the student with protection against the misguided zeal of some of his instructors.

More important, however, is the fact that the proposed innovation offers the student something new, interesting, and heretofore neglected—at least so far as any systematic treatment is concerned. Of course no one who has associated with undergraduates needs to be told that they don't neglect the subject. They simply don't know much about it, or know a great many things that aren't so. They are always asking "What is correct?" and always finding plenty of people ready and willing to tell them ex cathedra. The freshman, who is often just becoming culture conscious, is really a very docile person, and quite ready to listen to any prophet who assumes an apocalyptic pose. But to whom can he turn? "It is to be feared," said Walter Ripman a number of years ago, "that the majority of those professing to teach elocution are little better than quacks." It is also to be feared that the majority of the speech practitioners to whom the freshman has access are in little better case. At all events, it is clear that no one can begin to learn to pronounce until he knows how he actually does pronounce, that few people are able without instruction to observe the facts of language accurately and intelligently, and that instruction had better begin as soon as possible.

Granted the worthiness of Professor Kenyon's purpose, his book is admirably suited to the end in view. The presentation is clear, and the author's observation keen, accurate, and inde-

pendent. The numerous examples and exercises through the book are skillfully arranged for the purpose of stimulating the student's interest, and teaching him to observe and to form independent judgments.

MILES L. HANLEY.

Harvard University.

ITEMS FROM SOUTH WEARE, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

arched enemy, n. phr. Same as "arch enemy."

beezlin's, n. pl. First milk given after calving.

dozy, adj. Soft, punky:—applied to wood.

feather white, adj. phr. Very white.

freshen, v. i. To calve.

heft, in *just in the heft of the party,* adv. phr. Just as the party is well under way.

hitch, in *a quick hitch,* n. phr. A wagon easy to get in or out of.

hobble, n. A lean-to, place where cows are kept.

holdfast, n. Same as wolf, a swelling.

knobbles, n. pl. Knobs on squash, etc.

linter, n. A lean-to. Also leenter.

rolling fat, adj. phr. Extremely fat.

skrivvel, v. i. To shrink up (or dry corn). Compare shrivel.

stanchel. n. A stanchion for holding cows' heads.

stuboy, v. i. To set a dog on any person or thing.

tetnit, n. A child born of elderly parents.

tie up, n. phr. See *stanchel.*

wolf, n. A swelling on the neck of cattle.

GEORGE A. ENGLAND.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1923.

The thirty-fourth year of the Society has been in no way exceptional. With a membership remaining nearly constant, and printing costs still high, it has not been practicable either to increase the paging of the 1923 issue of *Dialect Notes* or to revert to the pre-war custom of a spring and an autumn issue. Active progress in collectanea in several important districts gives assurance of ample material, and it may safely be said that increase of interest in the work of the Society is clearly marked.

With regard to a time for meetings which should better enable the Society to hear and discuss papers, the Secretary conferred, as directed, with the Secretary of the Modern Language Association of America; and it was decided to try this plan of meeting within a session of the Association which is devoted to group meetings. Since the Society has a right to offer one paper on the Association program, this is no infringement on its time. Since this plan does, however, result in a conflict of interests for several members, and especially officers who must attend group meetings, a vote is desirable as to its continuance.

One chief aim of the Society has always been the preparation and publication of an American Dialect Dictionary. As materials to this end, it has, in addition to about 26,000 entries in the issues of *Dialect Notes,* some 15,000 other items on cards, and, in the Library of Harvard University, the manuscript material of Mr. Richard H. Thornton, which is sufficient to form a third volume of his American glossary. Prior to editorial scrutiny of this material, the first step in preparation must be to reduce it to a single, alphabetical system of card entries; and this work becomes yearly of increasing importance to check the publication of duplicate material. The Secretary cannot undertake so considerable a labor unassisted, nor is any contribution for the purpose in prospect.

Accordingly, the following plan is submitted for consideration.

(1) Volunteers shall be sought who will each cut and paste (or transcribe) on cards one issue of *Dialect Notes,* alphabetize the cards, and send them to the Secretary.

(2) The Society shall appropriate a sum, not exceeding fifty dollars, for the provision of cards, cardboard boxes, postage, and an instruction sheet to be used in making this file of card entries.

Unless several members are already prepared to volunteer, the Secretary does not recommend setting this plan in motion. On the other hand, some effort to accomplish the first stage of work on the Dictionary is imperative unless the Society is to encounter the reproach of merely marking time.

PERCY W. LONG, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY.

For the year 1923.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand December 26, 1922	$ 17.68
Receipts from membership dues and sale of *Dialect Notes*	314.54
Total Receipts	$332.22

DISBURSEMENTS.

Postage on *Dialect Notes* to Gotenburg, Sweden	$ 1.20
Printing and postage on notices of 1923 dues	5.90
Total Disbursements	$ 7.10
Balance on hand, Dec. 24, 1923	$325.12

The bill from Tuttle, Morehouse and Taylor Co. for printing and mailing Vol. V, No. 6 of *Dialect Notes* has not been received and is a charge against the balance recorded above.

PERMANENT FUND.

Three war savings stamps matured January 1, 1923 and were at that time converted into their face value of	$155.00
This sum was deposited as a savings account in the People's Bank of Chapel Hill, N. C., at 4% quarterly compound interest and has earned as interest	6.07
The present value of the Permanent Fund is	$161.07

RECOMMENDATION.

The Treasurer recommends that the annual dues be raised to two dollars a year.

JAMES F. ROYSTER,
Treasurer.

Chapel Hill, N. C.,
December 24, 1923.

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(An asterisk indicates that the collection is being made by a student under the professor's supervision.)

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Cape Cod ..... Henry James
Iowa ..... Frank L. Mott
Kansas ..... J. C. Ruppenthal
Kentucky ..... J. H. Combs
Michigan ..... C. P. Wagner
Newfoundland ..... G. A. England
New Mexico ..... E. L. Warnock
New York State (Ithaca) ..... Clark Northup
North Carolina ..... H. H. Kephart
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College Terms ..... R. W. Gordon
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Fraternity Terms ..... J. E. Mason, Jr.

Speech chant (Indiana) ..... Mrs. G. H. Stempel

Trade Words ..... O. F. Emerson*
Whaling Terms ..... Edward Denham

By periods

Colonial ..... Albert Matthews
Early Pioneers ..... Worthington C. Ford

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DIALECT NOTES
Volume V, Part VIII, 1925

THE NEED FOR AN AMERICAN DIALECT DICTIONARY.

It would be premature, at the present stage, to attempt to lay down any precise rule as to the scope of the proposed Historical Dictionary of American English, and to decide beforehand how far certain elements of the language should be either partially or wholly excluded from its pages. Even when a final decision has to be made, it will probably be found unpractical to adopt any rigid principle of inclusion or exclusion. Words are rather like persons, and some succeed in forcing an entry into good society where many others of the same class have to remain outside.

It may be assumed that it will be possible to include in the dictionary all available material of any value for the history of the vocabulary down to 1800, or perhaps a little later. For the whole of this period comparatively little has been preserved that lies outside of the main current of the language, and every waif and stray which can be picked up from the backwaters may have its interest, in respect either of the place from which it has come, or the destination it may ultimately arrive at.

For the greater part of the nineteenth century the situation is entirely different. Both in speech and in writing the vocabulary begins to increase with great rapidity. Science in all its branches, and the technical arts in all their applications, make constant additions to their special terms, many of which never attain currency outside of the subject with which they are connected, and only in rare exceptions have a real place in the development of the language. At the other extreme, the spoken tongue in its various forms begins to assert itself more and more on the printed page. It is used as a means of literary expression both in poetry and in prose, and it is carefully collected and recorded in periodicals or books. Between real dialect on the one hand, and the whole range from colloquialisms to slang on the other, the record of popular speech becomes so abundant that in itself it raises serious problems of lexicography.

To include the whole of these developments of the past century in the Historical Dictionary would throw a very serious burden upon it, under which the scheme might well break down altogether. This will be obvious if the question of the scientific vocabulary is considered. If adequate attention were to be given to this, it would be necessary to trace, in special works and in the transactions of scientific societies, the full history of thousands of terms pertaining to chemistry, mineralogy, botany, zoology, medicine, etc., etc. Not only would this involve immense labour in collecting the material, it would also require the constant aid of specialists to insure accuracy and completeness. That this is a work which might well be undertaken in the interests of science is not to be disputed, but it is not a task which should fall upon those whose primary interests is in the history of the language.

There is, at first sight, more reason for thinking that dialect and slang, and all forms of current speech, have a right to be fully represented in the Dictionary. It may even be urged that they are more really part of the language than a large number of the words employed in literature which are seldom or never heard in ordinary talk. Whatever force there may be in this argument, however, must yield to the weight of practical considerations. In the material for the first two centuries of the Historical Dictionary the colloquial and local elements will be comparatively slight. For the past century they will have to be more fully represented, but it is essential that they should not be allowed more space than they are fully entitled to, in comparison with the more important and more general aspects of the language.

The proper method of doing justice all round has already been discovered and carried out in practice. In the pages of the Oxford English Dictionary, the colloquialisms, dialect, and slang of the modern period of the language have been freely admitted, but as a rule only when good cause can be shown for doing so, and then with due limitation of the space allotted to them. In this way they find their place in the files of the language, without too much crowding, or elbowing out, of their more respectable and better authenticated fellows. In the earlier volumes of the Dictionary, condensation of the dialect evidence was not always easy, as the publications of the English Dialect Society had added immensely to the available material The situation was

eased at once when Prof. Wright, working with his usual energy, had carried the *English Dialect Dictionary* to such a point that it became possible not only to consult it, but to refer the inquirer to it for further information. By this means it became a simple matter to summarize the dialect evidence for the survival of an old word, or the current use of a new one, in the space of a line or two, and leave the full presentation of the details to the special work.

This clearly points the way to the solution of the problem as regards the language of the United States during the past century. The Historical Dictionary ought to be discriminatingly selective, and should be supplemented by other works which will cover special portions of the field with greater inclusiveness and fullness of presentation than it could possible give. One of these will necessarily be an AMERICAN DIALECT DICTIONARY in a wide sense, including much that is colloquial, and even slang, rather than real dialect, and the compilation and publication of successive portions of this ought to precede, by some months at least, the corresponding sections of the larger work.

This suggestion, it will be seen, does not imply that the preparation of the Dialect Dictionary must be rushed in order to get the whole of it in print at an early date. All that is necessary in the meantime is to take such steps as will ensure the bringing together of all the available material, in such a form as will make it possible to begin editing whenever it may seem most opportune to do so. The work required to this end is to a great extent mechanical, so far as material already in print is concerned. What is necessary is to enlist a sufficient number of methodical workers, and divide the field among them, after a careful survey has been made of the extent to be covered. I understand that the Society has already made progress in this direction, and has accumulated a considerable number of entries on slips, which can serve as a basis and model for further work of the same kind.

In addition to this the collecting of fresh material should be pushed on as vigorously as possible, and those who undertake it should from the outset be asked to record it in such a form that it could be incorporated with the rest without having to be re-written. This, of course, does not prevent each collector from making separate use of his or her material for articles or dis-

sertations before parting with it for the use of the Dictionary. Such material should include all printed dialect literature as well as the spoken tongue, so that much work could be done by persons who have no special opportunities of studying actual varieties of speech. At the same time, there would naturally be a great advantage in having all dialect literature read by those who have personal knowledge of the particular variety employed, and are consequently able to certify the correctness of the forms used by the writers.

The requirements for the present are thus matters of organization. If the Society is prepared to further the compilation of the Dialect Dictionary, the first step would be to appoint one or more of its members to draw up lists of the material already in print, whether in the form of collections of dialect words and phrases, or of literature in which these are employed. An appeal should then be made by the Society for assistance in bringing together in dictionary form, the material to be obtained from these sources, on lines which can be made clear by a few general instructions and specimen slips. Other members might undertake the task of seeing that the collecting of new unprinted material was pushed on as rapidly as possible, and of giving special attention to areas not yet properly represented. Two or three years intensive work should be sufficient to enable a beginning to be made to the task of final editing. As soon as the general lines for this were settled, it would be found that much of the work was mechanical, and could be carried out rapidly by a few selected hands. The date at which printing should be undertaken need not be unduly hastened; it would be sufficient, so far as the Historical Dictionary is concerned, if the earlier letters of the alphabet were in type when the editing of that work began in earnest.

It would naturally be of great service to have close co-operation between those working at the two dictionaries, and it would at least be possible for the same person to direct research work for both. The history of the English tongue in the United States requires to be fully illustrated from all sources, and a careful examination of a specimen of dialect literature, or of the living speech in a particular area, can be made as valuable for the student as the study of the most distinguished writers in the normal form of the language. From the dictionary point of

view, the main thing is that the study should be thorough, and that the materials on which it is based should be noted in such a form that they can without trouble be incorporated with those from other sources.

The plans for the Historical Dictionary, and the appeal for assistance for carrying them out, will shortly be ready for circulation. These must be limited to what is natural and feasible for the purpose in view, but they will be placed on a much firmer and fuller basis for the more recent period of the language if they can be supplemented by a similar scheme for dealing with what mainly lies outside of the scope of the larger work, but cannot be entirely set aside in the historical survey.

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NEWFOUNDLAND DIALECT ITEMS

The following notes are the result of two trips to Newfoundland, supplemented by a good deal of other investigation. My first trip, in the summer of 1920, took me along the south coast of the island, from Port-aux-Basques to Grand Bank. My second, in the winter and early spring of 1922, was from St. John's to the ice-fields, aboard the sealing-steamer *Terra Nova*. Though on the first trip I collected numerous words and phrases, the bulk of my observations took place during the five weeks when I was "to the ice" with the sealers. I lived and worked among them on the most intimate terms, and had unusual opportunities to record a large number of their peculiar locutions.

Though I can lay no claim to being a profound student of philology, yet it is fair to say that long training as a writer has resulted in a certain accuracy of observation; and I believe my word-list gives a reasonably correct picture of the Newfoundland dialects as spoken by the groups with which I have come in contact. It must be understood that there is no one fixed dialect for the whole island. Newfoundland was very long ago settled by at least four races—English, Irish, Scotch and French—and these races have to a large extent maintained their own peculiarities of speech, as well as of folk-lore and religion. It would far exceed our space-limits to discuss the question of just which parts of the island show predominant characteristics of one race or another. All we need here note is that, as in ancient Greece, the deep bays and the difficulty of land-communication have tended to preserve the characteristics of the various settlements. Many of the people still consider themselves—say—Conception Bay men, or White Bay men, rather than Newfoundlanders as a whole. This has tended in some degree to preserve the various local differences of speech. Again, the lack of free public schools—all education being sectarian—and the resulting high degree of illiteracy, has further hindered the approach of the dialects to standard English. In time, of course, these factors will tend to disappear, and Newfoundland will come to speak standard English; but in my opinion that time is still a long way off.

At first contact with the Newfoundland coast, one finds the

language of the fishing-folk, who there constitute a majority of the people, in many instances almost unintelligible, especially as many of the people speak in a thick and mumbling tone. The educated classes, of course, talk good English with many Americanisms, all their relations of life and commerce being closer with the United States than with the mother-country. But even among them, a tinge of dialect pronunciation usually remains. One does not have to talk long with even the best-educated of Newfoundlanders, to discover his nationality. Though such Newfoundlanders will often indignantly deny that any dialects exist, the very words they use in their denials will sometimes betray them. They simply are not conscious of this fact. A Newfoundlander's way, for instance, of saying: "Not-at-all!," with an inimitable drawl and a faint broadening toward "ahl," reveals him, even though he may be a university man. The best-educated almost invariably mispronounce certain words, such as "fipper" for "flipper." And in many a piquant and entertaining turn of speech, their race will stand revealed.

In all the Newfoundland dialects I have had the privilege of observing, ancient Elizabethan and even Chaucerian words are still used. "Bide," and "tarry," and "even so"; "prent" and "gobbet" and endless other archaic forms persist. I dare say that if the immortal Will or the merry Geoffrey could come back, they could talk with these people more easily than could the American novice. No doubt the trained philologist could detect even pure Anglo-Saxon words and pronunciations. This ancient quality of the speech lends it much of its charm; its force, dignity, and simplicity are refreshing, in this world of modern slang and vulgarisms.

The Newfoundlanders are singularly sensitive about their speech. To record it, the observer has to work rapidly and refrain from questions. Ask the people to repeat a word or phrase, and they will usually try to recast it into their idea of conventional English. They seem to feel that the inquirer is "tryin' to haul de cod off o' we simple folk." Some of them confided in me that "us Newf'un'landers talks broken English." When I assured them that their language was the original, simon-pure, ancestral tongue, they could hardly understand. And yet I do believe these fine and hardy types are still speaking the staunch old King's English of many centuries past.

Beckles Willson, in his book "The Tenth Island," calls the Newfoundland dialect "one of the most marvellous composites on earth." It is all of that; and a complete unravelling of its various strands would serve as a life-work for some ambitious investigator. The language has, of course, been profoundly affected by the material means of existence. The cod-fishery, seal-hunt, and other Newfoundland occupations have introduced hundreds, perhaps thousands, of words elsewhere known but little or not at all. One must become familiar with the work of the Newfoundlander, in numerous cases, to have any idea what he is driving at when he speaks.

Some odd turn of thought makes many of the people use diminutives. A gale becomes a "breeze," oars are "paddles," an axe is a "hatchet," and a schooner is sometimes a "skiff." A two-masted vessel may be called a "punt," a cable a "string," and a heavy steel hawser a "wire." The wickedest kind of weather is often only "dirt," while the finest is but "civil." A man sick in bed is merely "puckerin' " or turned over." But I must refrain from further illustration.

I wish to make the following acknowledgments for untiring patience and assistance in collecting my data, given me by Edward J. Penney, a Newfoundland writer; Captain Abraham Kean of the *Terra Nova;* P. K. Devine, Levi F. Chafe and the late James Vey, all of St. John's; and H. F. Shortis, historiographer of the Colony. Without their invaluable assistance, my labors could have had not even half whatever value the lenient student may be willing to accord them.

Imperfectly as I have studied and recorded the Newfoundland dialects, I have gone far enough into the subject at least to realize that these form some of the richest, most picturesque and linguistically valuable fields for research still remaining in this world now rapidly being standardized. I hope that my beginning in this practically virgin field may tempt some more competent student to pursue the study to far greater length.

a. 1. Used for *o;* as *drave* for "drove," pret.; *tarment* for "torment."

2. Prefixed, as in *a-be* for "be"; *a-dere* for "there."

3. Used for *e,* as in *age* for "edge," *ape* for "heap"; *ate* for "eat," "heat."

a. Often pronounced *i.*

abroad, adv. Spread out; scattered.

a-bursted, a. Broken; —of a dish, hull, etc.
ado, to make. Make trouble or a row.
adurt, adv. Across.
ahl, a. and n. All.
air alang, to. Sail with a light breeze.
airsome, a. Cold; stormy; —of weather.
airy frost. Intense windy cold.
all to pieces. Thoroughly. "I knows un *all to pieces.*"
alang, adv. Alongside or returned to (the ship); aboard.
andramartens, n. pl. Pranks.
ar. (â) conj. Or. —n. hair. —a. any. Also, less often, *ary.*
ar'ntall. Any one at all.
ash cat. One of the ship's gang which hauls out and dumps ashes.
ashore. adv. On board. esp. when men are out on the ice.
astray, a. Different. "Me watch an' his is an awful piece *astray.*"
av'lidge, a. and n. Average.
back east. Home in Newfoundland.
back weight. Weight deducted from sculps for flesh remaining on them.
bag, v. t. and i. To keep (fish) overnight in a bag.
bake, n. 1. A jinker. 2. An interloper; intruder.
bake apple. A kind of edible berry, small and yellow, growing close to the ground; identified as *rubus chamaemorus.*
ballot, n. Billet (of wood).
banished, a. Killed, exterminated; —of seals.
banker, n. A fisherman or fishing ship on the Great Banks. —*banking,* n.
barachois, n. A bay.
barbarous, a. Unfair; bad; —a general term of contempt.
bare, a. Out of funds; broke. —*bare water,* open water.
bark, v. t. To boil (a sail or cordage) with hemlock bark.
barn, v. t. and i. Burn, —*p. p.* Born.
barrel man. A man in a barrel on the mainmast or foremast, spying for seals.
barricade, n. Forecastle.
bart up. Brought up; reared.
bat, v. t. To hit (seals) with the gaff. —*batsman,* n.
batch, n. A fall of snow.
bath, v. To boil (fish or lobsters) in a can.
batty catters. Ice frozen to the shore and hummocked up. Also *bally catters, barry catters.*
bavins, n. pl. Very thin kindlings.
bawn, n. 1. A fish flake of stones. 2. A shingly beach.
bay noddies. Outport men.
bay o' water. A lake in the ice.
boy tilt. A rough hovel. "Smokin' like a *bay tilt.*"
beam trawl. A seine.
beater (ê), n. A young seal of over one month, swimming north.
bedflies, n. pl. Bedbugs; lice.

bedlamer, n. A harp seal in its third year or hood seal in its second year; —suggested origin. *bête de la mer.* Also *beddamer, bellamer.*

belly an' back. Odd ones, instead of a pair; —said of gloves.

belt, n. and v. Drink.

bend round, to. Dissipate.

bibber, v. i. Shiver.

bide, v. i. Stay.

bill, n. 1. The number of seals brought in. 2. Money paid for one's share at the end of a trip.

binnacy, n. Cross; peevish.

bisn. Are you not? "What's thy name? Same man I giv poor relief to last year, *bisn?*"

bisn, n. A broom; —prob. from *besom.*

bite, n. 1. Place. "You take my bite." 2. Share of money.

black, a. Sunburned. —*black back,* a harp seal in the fourth year.

black poor. Thin.

blank, to make a. To pass time without getting seals.

blame, n. Reproach for fault; as, to lay a *blame* on a man.

blasses, n. pl. Blasts.

blay, a. Brown.

bleacher, n. A marriageable girl, esp. when not attached.

blood of a bitch. A term of great reproach.

blow de roast, to. To betray by telling.

blow up, to. Fatten.

blubber soap. Soft soap, —made from "de hile off de livers in a barl an' de loy off de ashes."

blue drop. Open water.

blue nose. A Prince Edward's Islander; —so called from potatoes grown there with bluish eyes.

bobbin' hole. A hole used by seals to come up to their young.

booby hatch. A small hatch over the midships companionway to the "lobby."

bogey, n. A small square stove.

bon' (o), n. A fish flake or drying beach covered with bowlders. Also *bawn* (c).

boneen, n. A young pig.

bore, pret. pres. Bear. "It *bores* narest." —*bore up,* to start home.

bosthoon, n. An extremely ignorant man; —perhaps from *gossoon.*

bottled, a. Jammed in the ice.

brach, n. and v. Break; —of fish.

brachy (ê), a. Slightly brackish.

braffus, n. Breakfast.

branch, v. i. To turn aside in one's road.

bread, n. Hard bread. Bread when soft is called "loaf."

breeze, n. 1. Gale. "De light house blowed away in a *breeze.*" 2. Breed. "My curse on you and all your *breeze.*"

bresney, n. A load of dry sticks carried on the shoulder.

bridge master. A man who stands on a ship's bridge to transmit directions from the "scunner" to the wheel.

brile, n. Confusion, mess; —prob. from *broil.*

brin bag. Gunny sack.

bring-up, n. The place where one stops.

brist, n. Breast.

brooze, n. Hard bread boiled in water or milk.

brudge, n. 1. Bridge. 2. Porch (of a house).

buff, in de naked. Nude.

bugger, n. Fellow, —almost a term of endearment.

bull, n. Bulwarks; rails.

bulldog, n. A kind of big fly.

bulljoin, n. Engine.

bun, n. A loaf (of soft bread).

bung, a. Square with; opposite. "It's not *bung* with the land."

bunker, n. Coal.

burn, n. 1. A wound or scar from a bullet (on a seal). 2. A blister.

burn down. To stop (ship) for the night in the ice.

busk, v. i. To hustle; formerly, to beg. —*busker,* n.

butter bitch. The man who rations the butter.

buttoned up de back. Beginning to change color; —said of whitecoats.

cad, n. A large box (of tobacco).

calavance, n. A kind of small bean.

calf, v. i. To break off; —of icebergs.

calibogus, n. A mixture of spruce beer, rum, and molasses.

cam, a. Crooked or bent.

cannonball, n. Old duff.

cant, n. Sayings. "Low, vulgar *cants.*"

cantal, n. Quintal.

cant off, to get a. To be driven away from land.

capelin, n. A small fish much used for bait.

carry the key (ê), *to.* To be the last ship in the fleet to reach port.

cat, n. A stillborn seal.

catamaran, n. A horse or dog sled.

cattidge, n. Cartridge.

catty, a. Lively, spry.

caught, p. a. Frozen. "De harbor is *caught* over."

chaw-round, n. A talk; conversation.

chinwag, v. i. Gossip.

chip, v. i. To cut tobacco or peel potatoes.

chisel, n. 1. A little sharp blade. 2. A spike in a sole. —*chisel bars,* crowbars for breaking ice.

chock, v. i. Veer; —of wind.

chronic, n. A dry stump.

chuck-a-tuck, a. Full. "The ship was *chuck-a-tuck* wid fat."

civil, a. Fair; good; —of weather.

clar (â), a. Clear. —*clar of,* without.

clavies, n. pl. Square holes in chimneys for odds and ends.

claw off, to. Get away from a lee shore.

clever cat. A good stillborn seal.

click, n. 1. Pace; swift motion; —of a ship. 2. A stiff piece of leather back of the heel of a shoe.

clumper, n. A hummock.

coaleys, n. pl. The court cards in a pack. Also *coadys.*

coarse, a. Hard; stiff; —of wind.

cockabaloo, n. Bully; boss.

cocks and hens. Clams.

coction, n. Brew; —from *concoction.*

cod, n. 1. A joke or jolly. 2. A joker. 3. A poor sort of fellow; fool. —v. i. To joke or jolly; as, "he'm allers coddin'."

codfish, n. Various classes of codfish have special names, as *merchantable, Madeira, West Indies,* and *cullage.*

cod hauler. Newfoundlander; —a derogatory term.

codology, n. The lore or science of jollying.

cody, n. Boiled molasses. —*cody duff,* a pudding with "cody."

coffer, n. = *cuffer.*

cold, v. Cool.

comatick, n. A long, large sled drawn by dogs and used by persons, fourteen feet as used by Eskimos.

company bread. Bread carried to keep off fairies.

conkerbill, n. An icicle, as one hanging from eaves or from a horse's nose.

cool, v. t. Kill.

copper, n. 1. A ship's galley kettle (of any metal). 2. pl. A cooking range.

copy, v. i. To jump from cake to cake of ice. "I seen im *copyin'* across de slob."

corner boy. A city man; used by outport men.

corriscue, corrisue, n. A small opening through ice.

courageous, a. Acutely painful. "Me nays pains me all de time an sometimes dem *courageous.*"

courier hoods. Scattering guards outside the harp seals.

court work. Legal proceedings.

covel, n. A three-quarter flour barrel, used in fish cleaning.

covey fellers. Outport men.

cowly, a. Hard; severe.

cozy, a. Energetic; fast.

cracky, a. Saucy; fresh. —n. 1. A small dog. 2. Khaki.

cradle, n. A bed of chopped ice around a ship to prevent crushing.

cribbage, v. i. Steal.

crit, in a. Squatting.

crop, n. Sealing supplies, including sheath knife, steel and belt, tobacco, and skin boots. —v. i. To get one's sealing supplies.

cross-hackle, v. t. Cross question.

cross lop. A choppy sea (caused by cliffs).
cruise, n. A long walk.
crunnock, n. A small piece of dry wood.
cuddy oar. A bow oar.
cuff, n. A mitten with separate thumb.
cuffer, n. An incredible story; yarn.
cull, v. t. Choose.
curby, n. = *curvy.*
curdle, v. t. and i. Curl.
currentine, n. and v. Quarantine.
currier, n. A hood seal in the third year.
curvy, n. A quilt or cover for a bunk.
cut, n. 1. A heavy slaughter (of seals). 2. Course, direction.
d. Used for *th;* as, *dat* for "that," *fadom* for "fathom."
darn, n. 1. Dawn. 2. A drink.
daughter seal. Dotard; —perh. from *dotterel.*
deck router. One of the four assistant master watchers.
devil's claw. An ice anchor. Its two tines are bent in the same direction at right angles to the shank.
dickey, n. A long outer jacket.
dickey seat. The small rear seat of a sleigh.
dieter, n. A fisherman on the ship who supplies his own food.
dinamore, n. Dynamo.
dip, v. i. To take to water; —of young seals. —*dippin' time,* March 28th.
do, n. Action; mix-up.
dob, n. Dip; —of a ship sticking her nose down in a heavy sea.
dod, n. A ship's course. "Make a straight *dod.*"
dog, n. 1. A man who follows gunners with ammunition. 2. A male seal. —v. i. 1. Follow. 2. Breed; —of seals.
dog irons. Fire dogs.
donkey, n. A winch. —*donkey man,* fourth engineer, or oiler.
doss-down, n. A nap; sleep.
dough, boy, n. Flour and water, mixed and cooked in boiling water.
douse, v. t. Fool.
down, adv. Away from ice; back to port.
down the Labrador. North.
draft, n. A bunch of fish carried on a barrow.
draw, v. i. To go slow; —of a ship.
draw de hatch over, to. Dive; —of seals.
dredge barrow. A flat board with handles to carry fish.
drict, n. Quality or power of drying. "No *drict* in de wedder."
drill, n. and v. Work.
driver, n. The sail (of a punt).
drook, n. A cluster of fir or spruce. Also *droke, drogue, drove.*
droll, a. Queer feeling. "A *droll* head" (when ill).
drop ball. An earring.

drug, n. A chain; —prob. from *drag*.

drum, n. Four quintals (of fish).

drung, n. 1. A narrow lane dividing two properties. 2. A patch of woods.

dry diet. Poor food, mostly of flour.

duce, v. t. Introduce.

duckish, n. Dusk; twilight.

dunch, a. Heavy; soggy; —of bread, etc.

dungeon, n. The forward lower hold.

dust, n. Spark. "De fire gone out evry *dust*."

dwigh, n. A sudden shower. Also *dwoy*.

e. Pron. *i;* as; *chickers* for "eheckers."

easly, a. Easterly.

eed (î), n. Head. —adv. Ahead.

eldery, a. Elderly. Also *ellery*.

ellety up. In a hurry; very fast.

empt, v. t. Empty.

enter, v. t. Cause to enter.

eumonia, n. Pneumonia.

evening, n. Afternoon, —twelve to six.

everyhow, adv. In every way.

expect, v. i. Think; suspect.

face, n. Inside (of a split cod).

faggot, n. 1. A bundle (of fish) taken out of the salt bulk and piled. 2. A naughty child; —in mild reproof.

fair, v. t. and i. Fear. —adv. Even on a line. "*Fair* wid that man's eed." —a. Real; sure enough. "A *fair* mutiny."

fair beyend all. Extreme; very.

fairity, a. Fairly well.

faith, v. i. Fade.

faitour, n. A lazy fellow.

fan, v. i. To blow lightly; —of wind. —*fan away*, to clear away; —of fog.

farmer, n. A poor sailor; —term of contempt.

fashion, n. Habit.

fat, n. Seals in company; as, right into *fat*. Young *fat* are seals under one month.

fathom out, to. Explain.

fausty, a. Musty or mouldy; —of tea or bread.

feature (ê), v. t. Hook like; favor. "It'd hardly *feature* her."

feel for, to. To feel like; desire. "I don't *feel for* havin' a drink."

feeling, a. Causing feeling or sentiment. "A *feelin'* thing."

feller, n. Son.

fetch, n. A load (of seals).

figgy duff. Pudding with some fruit.

fin, v. t. Offend.

find, v. t. Feel. "I *finds* my rheumatics."

fipper, n. Flipper (of a seal), —restricted to the forward flippers.
fire, n. A supply of cartridges. —*fire spanels,* sparks.
fish, n. Codfish. —*fishes faces,* cod heads.
fish high line, to. To secure the greatest number of fish; —said of dories.
fish doctor. A small marine animal with hard shell.
fist, v. t. Grasp. "Then Lannigan *fisted* his pig by the tail."
fit, v. t. Prepare; fill; as to *fit* a lantern, —i. e. fill it with oil.
fit-out, n. Outfit, equipment.
flanker, n. A large spark (from a chimney).
flaus, interj. An exclamation denoting sudden or violent action.
flaus down, to. To go down or sink suddenly.
fled, pret. Flew. "De gun *fled* out o' his hand."
fleet of nets. Two nets.
flick, v. t. Throw; —perhaps from *fleck.*
flip, v. t. and i. 1. Steal. 2. Go fast.
floaters, n. pl. Labrador codders who move during the summer.
flog de time, to. To set the clock (ahead or back).
flop, v. t. and i. 1. = *flip.* 1, 2. Faint.
flopshion, n. Agitation. —*all of a flopshion,* flustered.
flute, n. A (man's) mouth.
floater, n. A schooner that goes north every summer to fish. Also *banker.*
fly, n. A small flag on the mast denoting a good catch.
follow, a horse, to (falî). Work as a teamster or coachman.
fong, n. The string of a boot.
footin', on one's. On one's tracks.
foreright, a. Careless; heedless. "A *foreright* feller."
foxey, a. 1. Discolored through age; faded. 2. Red-haired; reddish; sometimes, yellowish.
frankum, n. Spruce gum.
freighter, n. A man who goes north every summer to fish.
fresh salt. Ice used to preserve seals in the ship's hold.
fro, n. An instrument for cleaving hoop poles.
from, prep. Used of past time, not future. "Five years *from* here." —*from dis out,* from now on.
front, n. The region east of Newfoundland.
frore, a. Frozen.
froster, n. A kind of boot nail, larger than sparrables.
fruz, n. Excitement; confusion. "All in a *fruz.*"
fudge, n. Great confusion or trouble.
full, n. A good load or cargo. —v. t. Fill.
fur together, to. Share the same fur path.
fuss, v. i. Work. —n. Trouble; difficulty.
fust, a., adv., n. First.
gad, n. 1. A string (of fish or flippers). 2. A withe for a wattled fence.
gaffer, n. A boy.
gallows, n. pl. Suspenders.

gams, n. pl. Hind quarters; —perhaps from *jambes*.
gandy, n. A pancake made with pork fat and molasses.
ganging line (dz). A strong, small cotton line, like herring net twine.
gangquay, n. Gangplank. "Put the *gangquay* on the pier."
gansey, n. A sweater; —suggested origin *Guernsey*.
garagee, n. A free-for-all fight.
'gard of. On account of; for the purpose of; —prob. from *regard*.
Garlic, n. Gaelic.
garricky, in a great. In great trouble or annoyance.
garter, n. Suspender.
gathering, n. A collection (of money taken up).
gaves, pl. of *gaff*.
gazaroo, n. Boy. "Me darlin' *gazaroo*."
gaze (gîz), n. 1. A blind, for shooting birds; also, a man using one. 2. Aim. 3. A look-out man.
gazling, n. A young lad; —said in irritation. Prob. from *gosling*.
genus, n. Genius.
gert, a. Great. "*Gert* time wedder."
gid. Pret. of *give*.
get on, to. Get near to; come upon. "To *get on* de swiles."
get on the brain, to. Take into one's head.
gie, v. t. Give. "Gie's a butt, b'ys."
girdy, n. A winch.
glee, in high. In excellent spirits.
glim, n. An effect which makes the ice appear higher.
glin, n. Dazzle of the ice.
glitter, i. Hard ice; frozen mist on the rig. "A solid inch o' *glitter* on the rattlins."
glutch, n. and v. Swallow.
gly, n. A trap having a hook attached to a float. It is baited and used for catching gulls.
go, n. Gang; as, "our *go*." —v. t. Defy.
—*go abroad, to*. Rot, as potatoes.
—*go alee, to*. Break loose; tip over.
—*go back, to*. Die down.
—*go dog for, to*. To accompany as a helper.
—*go foreign, to*. = *go abroad*.
—*go in collar, to*. Get to work; sign on and stow things aboard.
—*go on the breeze, to*. To get drunk; to take a nip.
—*go sling, to*. Explode.
—*go to oil, to*. To become valueless; go to seed.
—*go to pummy, to*. Disintegrate; —of seal fat.
goat's house. The quarter hatch.
gob, n. Mouth.
gobbet, n. A morsel.
gobby, a. Crazy; nutty.
gommel, n. Fool.

good, adv. Well, "Good I knew it."
gossip, n. Godfather or godmother.
gozaroo, n. Fellow.
grace, v. t. Grease.
grappels, n. pl. Grapnels. Also *grapenel* (ê).
grayback, n. A louse.
greasy-jackets, n. pl. Scalers.
grignet, n. Cricket.
groaning cake. A cake for the first birthday and christening.
growler, n. A small berg or large "batty catter" floating.
guffies, n. pl. Fellows; fools.
guinea, n. Guinea pig.
gulch, n. 1. A narrow cove along the seashore. 2. A hollow between waves. —v. t. and i. Swallow.
gum bean. A small ball of tobacco.
gurdy, n. A winch.
gurry, n. Oil (of seals).
h. 1. The Cockney *h* is usual, as *hice* for "ice," *hile* for "oil." 2. Often omitted, as in *eed* for "head," *andy* for "handy."
habbage, n. A rough, dishonest, cruel person; —prob. from *savage.*
hag, n. Nightmare.
haigdown, n. A sea fowl. Also *baulk.*
hail, n. Estimated number of seals. —*hail for, to.* Report (as a catch).
hand, n. A flipper.—*hand, to one's.* To one's credit.
handy about to. Near.
hang-ashore, n. A loafer.
hang (a thing) out, to. Spar for time; delay.
hapse, n. and v. Latch; hasp.
hard, n. Solid ice. "In de *hard.*"
hardware, n. Intoxicating liquor.
harse, n. Horse.
hatchet, n. An ax.
haul de cod off, to. Deceive; fool; jolly.
haul on, to. Go forward; —of ships.
he, pron. Him; it.
head (î), a. First. "De *head* spring dat ee went swilin'." —v. t. Behead (cod). —*header,* n.
header, n. A fisher, usually a woman, who tears off heads.
heading palm. A mit worn while "heading."
head lead. An opening of water in front of a ship.
heart rock. Hearth stone.
heat (ê), n. A warming after cold. "Go, get a *hate* for yerself."
heater (ê), n. Flatiron.
heave (ê) *down.* Give up, as smoking.
heck it, to. Walk quickly.
heel of the day. Last part of the afternoon.
Hell's alley. Nowhere; very far away.

herden, n. Herring. Also *herron*.
hicky, n. A drink (of liquor). Also *higgy*.
high-liner, n. One that "fishes high line."
hile, n. Oil.
hippers, n. pl. Nails used to fasten trousers to a shirt.
hit one on the lee side, to. Catch unawares; surprise.
hocks, n. pl. Boots.
hoffy, a. Foolish; crazy; probably from *off*.
hoist (ai), v. t. Take. "De devil *hist* you."
holus-bolus, adv. Hastily.
honest up. Truly; honest Injun.
hoppers, n. pl. Spyglasses.
horn, n. A unit (of anything); as, five *horns* of beer; he danced two *horns* of music.
hot, v. t. 1. Heat. 2. Hit. —*hot seals*, seals freshly killed.
hound, n. A species of water bird.
housewife (hœsif), n. A case of needles and thread.
humgumption, n. Common sense.
humors, n. pl. Traces (of seals).
hungry, a. Without fish or seals; —of a ship.
hunt, v. t. To jolly or josh (a person).
huskimaw, n. Esquimo.
hyssen, v. t. Hoist. Also *hyse*.
ice blind. Blindness caused by ice.
ice candle. Icicle.
ice-on, a. Worn on the ice. "*Ice-on* clothes."
idden. Isn't.
infectious, a. Harmful. "Cigarettes is wunnerful *infectious*."
inside of (*her course*). More into the wind.
inside water. Water between ice and land.
intrude, v. Extort; overcharge.
island of ice. An iceberg.
jack-o-tar, n. A west coast Newfoundlander of half French or Indian extraction; a low grade fisherman.
jacket warmer. A warm place.
jade, v. t. = *moider*. "We don't want to be *jaded* about de princess."
jader, n. = jinker.
jag, n. A load. "A big *jag* o' fat."
jakers, by. A mild oath; "be jabbers."
jam, v. t. To get into trouble; perplex; puzzle; bother.
jib, n. An approach to land.
jife, n. Run; direction (of a ship).
jig, n. Scales or stillyards. —v. i. Catch fish with a jig. —*jig round, to*. Waste time; drift.
jink, v. t. To queer or spoil.
—*jinker*, n. An unsuccessful sealing captain; also, a hoodoo; Jonah.
joggle, n. A piece cut out of anything; also, the nick so made.

johnnies (a), n. pl. Christmas mummers. Also *jennies*.
joisie, n. A short coat; —prob. from *jersey*.
jonnick. A contraction meaning "I swear (or affirm) it."
jowl, n. A pig's jawbone, cleaned and boiled.
jowler, n. A lucky fellow, esp. one who gets a load of fish every summer.
Judy, n. A girl or woman, —esp. in disparagement.
keecorn, n. Adam's apple.
kellock, n. A stone anchor, bound in by sticks.
kenat, n. Fool.
knapp, n. A small grassy hillock.
knobbly, a. Rough.
knot, n. A tough patch of ice, not easy to get through.
knowledgeable, a. Well informed; educated.
kristle, n. Gristle.
lace, v. t. Tie (the skins of seals) by roping through holes in the edge.
landwash, n. A place where the ocean washes the shore.
landy, n. A worthless, feeble-minded person; landlubber.
larrigan, n. Moccasin.
larry string. A small string (of seals).
lassie loaf. Bread and molasses.
lay down, to. Cut open (seal) without skinning.
layssest, a. Least.
leggies, n. pl. A certain small kind of cod.
'levener, n. The 11 A. M. mug up.
lie up, to. Loaf.
linney, n. Lean-to.
live hard against, to. Have a grudge against.
liverish, a. Sick; nauseated.
livyere, n. One who lives here (in Newfoundland), usually an outport man.
loaf, n. Soft bread.
lobby, n. A ship's store room.
lob scouse. Soup of turnips, salt meat, and potatoes.
logey, a. Hot; —of weather.
logger load. A full (sealing) trip.
log-loaded, a. Loaded to capacity.
longer, n. On a wharf or fence, one of the horizontal pieces or bars.
long gun. A big telescope.
look-after, n. Damages.
look-up, n. Prospect; outlook.
loom, v. i. Appear; seem; —of objects at a distance. "It *loom* more'n what it be."
loose leg, to have a. To be unmarried; be free.
loowardly, a. Clumsy or stupid; also, unlucky.
lop on, to have a. To roll; —of ocean waves. —*loppy*, a. "The bay 'll be *loppier* the marnin'."
lost, n. Loss. "De *lost* o' her'm dear son."

louse bag. A body sore.
low-liner, n. One that has the fewish fish or seals.
lug, n. Ear.
lum, n. The handle of an oar.
lun, n. The lee side.
lunimum, n. Aluminum.
'm. Added to pronouns; as, *I'm, he'm, you'm, they'm.*
maggoty, a. Drunk.
make de cod, to. Make a mistake.
make fire, to. To make a row.
make wonder, to. To be surprised.
man one down, to. In checkers, to reduce the adversary's men.
man up above. God.
man-murderin', a. Very painful; terrible; —esp. of snow and weather.
manus, n. and v. i. Mutiny strike till a grievance is settled. "De crew *manussed* on de cap'n." Prob. from menace.
mashin', n. Serious courting.
mashy, a. Soft; as, a *mashy* place in ice.
master watch. A subordinate officer, over one fourth of the hands.
mawzy, a. Close and foggy without wind.
meridium, n. Meridian.
merry-me-got, n. Bastard.
midnight glory. A heavy wadded quilt.
mind, v. t. and i. Remember.
miscrack, n. Mistake.
missioner, n. Missionary.
moider, v. t. Pester; bother.
—*moidered,* a. Overworked or troubled.
moild, n. A melting or thawing spell; from *mild.*
monch, v. i. Play truant; loaf.
monkey, n. A small water cask.
moor, n. Root (of a tree).
mornin', n. Day.
mouse, v. i. Yaw; as, to *mouse* on to one side.
muck, n. and v. = *muff.*
muckered, a. Exhausted; played out.
muckery, n. Confusion; difficulty.
muff, v. i. Loaf. —n. Loafer
muckle up, to. Brace up; pull up.
mug-up, n. Refreshment of tea with toast or crackers. —v. To feed; entertain with food or drink. "I'll *mug* you up."
mutinize, v. i. Mutiny.
nar, a. Not any. "I might ne'er eat *narr* nudder."
nar, n. North.
narsles, n. pl. Nostrils.
nassy, a. Nasty.
niche of rinds. A bundle, used for dunnage.

nig, v. t. Hit (a person).

night, n. Evening,—six to twelve.

nighter, n. A lodger for one night.

nip, n. A jam in the ice. —v. i. Press closely.

nippers, n. pl. Fishing mittens.

nippin', v. 1. Short. "I cut un bloody *nippin'*." 2. Very cold.

nish, a. 1. Immature; —of fish. 2. Delicate; —of a person.

nocklate. Corruption of *inoculate*.

noddy, n. A bird that likes rough water.

noggin, n. A flat tub.

nog-head, n. A young seal with the mother killed; —all head and no body.

nonny bag. A small knapsack to carry out on the ice; ditty bag.

nonplush, n. Nonplus.

nonsense, a. Foolishly shy or rude.

not in it. Not the way to do it.

norrid, adv. Northward.

north. Variously pronounced as *nar, nard, narth, no'd, nord*.

notamy, n. A skeleton; —from *anatomy*. "Before he died he shrunk to a *notamy*."

notch, n. A split in the coast; harbor entrance, esp. to St. John's.

nothren, a. Northern.

nudge, v. i. To keep busy; urge.

nunny bag. = *nonny bag*.

nurr. Another.

o. Pron. *a* (ê); as; *marnin* for "morning"; *alang* for "along."

obstrapulous, a. Obstreperous.

off of. Different from. "What I'm *off of* a dog meself is a d—small lot."

offer, n. A chance (at seals).

offshoot, v. t. Offset.

old granny, n. A kellock anchor (made of sticks and stones lashed together).

ole, a. and n. Whole.

Ol' Link. Satan.

oldster, n. One who has made former trips on the ice.

omadaun, n. A lazy, good-for-nothing fellow; fool.

omaloor, n. An ungainly fellow with big feet.

on, prep. 1. In the direction of; as, a cut *on* the land,—i. e. direct; a jib *on* the land,—i. e. slanting. 2. At; as, to curse *on* anything. 3. For; as, "I'm waiting *on* them trees."

ondley, adv. Only.

one, n. Used in referring to the ship.

on toast, to have. To abuse; roast.

out-harbor, a. Not living in St. John's. Also *out-port*.

over, adv. In *port over, starburd over*,—calls to get out on the ice.

orvis, n. Harvest.

oxter, n. Armpit.

owin'. According to. "It's all *owin'* how plenty de fish is."

oy. Pronounced *i;* as *bi* for "boy," *enji* for "enjoy."

pack, n. A load (on a ship).

pad de hoof, to. To walk barefoot.

paddle, n. Oar.

palky, n. A litter.

pan, n. 1. A sheet of ice broken away from the main sheet. 2. A collection of seal skins on the ice.

pan, v. t. and i. To make pans of (skins).

panned up. Frozen together; —of broken ice.

panting, a. Moving up and down; —said of ice moved by a long swell.

pantiles, n. pl. Hard cakes of flour, molasses, and seal fat.

parish boat. A boat to carry bay folk to church.

parlor, n. A barrel high up on a mast.

passionate (ê), a. Patient in suffering.

patch, n. A herd of seals; a "spot."

patch bag. A bag for small personal effects.

patienate, v. i. To be patient.

Patrick's brush. The spring equinoctial storm.

peggin, n. A kind of small bucket, without handle, used for bailing.

pelt, v. t. Throw. —v. i. Go.

pend, v. i. Depend.

perish, v. i. 1. Die; —of seals. 2. Cause to perish. "It'll *perish* you." 3. Rot.

pew, n. 1. A bunk (on a ship). Also *synagogue*. 2. A one-tined fork for tossing cod.

picaninie, n. Anything small, young, or tender.

pick, n. Bit. "Every *pick* o' work."

pier head jump. A quick start.

pig's back, on a. As one wants to be; all hunky dory; on easy street.

pinnacle, n. A raised ice formation.

pinnacle tea. Melted ice used for drinking.

pinnacly, a. Raftered; forced together so as to rise up; —of ice.

pint, n. and v. Paint.

piper, n. A kettle; also, an intruder.

Pisitic coast. Pacific coast.

pitch, v. i. To settle down; —of flocks of birds.

planchin', n. A floor,—whether of stone or wood.

planters, n. pl. Coast people who trade in a small way; also, trappers and fishers.

plim, v. t. Calk; tighten.

pliny, a. Plenty.

plumper, n. A big load (of seals).

poison, v. t. Cause to suffer. "It would *poison* ye wid frost."

pole, n. Head.

pompey, n. A small sloping tea kettle.

pock, n. A stack (of hay).
pot lid racket. Snow shoe.
pound, n. A compartment; as, deck *pound,* wing *pound.*
prate, n. Impudent talk; jaw; lip.
prong, n. A large two-tined fork for tossing fish.
prosperous, a. Successful (not "rich").
proper, a. 1. Veritable; regular. "He's a *proper* terror." 2. Good. "A *proper* cap'n."
proud, a. Glad. "I'm only too *proud* to do it."
pry, n. A short stick; gob stick.
puckaloon, n. A foolish man.
puckering, a. Sick; sickly.
puddick, n. Paunch.
pudgel, n. A small bucket with a handle.
pummy, n. Ground up ice. —*pummelly,* a.
punch, a hard. A time of hardships.
punishment, n. Embarrassment.
punt, n. A boat having three sails, a lifeboat.
pure drop, de. An ocean of blue water.
pussel, n. A kind of shell fish.
quat, v. i. Squat.
quieten, v. t. and i. Quiet.
quinter, n. A migrating young seal; beater. —v. i. To pursue or hunt scattered beaters.
r. · Displaced, as in *gert* for "*great.*"
rack, n. A comb for the hair.
rackly, adv. Immediately; —from *directly.*
rafter, v. i. To rise up in hummocks; —of ice. —*rafter together,* slide together, join.
ragged jacket. A seal when half white and half brown, as when moulting.
raisin', a. Very desirous; as, *raisin'* for baccy.
rally, n. Attack (on seals).
ranger, n. A half grown seal.
rate, adv. Immediately; corrupted from *right.*
rattle, n. A swift brook.
raw, n. A rough fellow; ruffian.
rear, v. t. Grow; as, to *rear* potatoes.
reason, by dis. On this account.
reckly, adv. At once; —from *directly.*
reeve, v. t. Carry; shoot.
remembrance, n. Memory. "Since I ad me *remembrance.*"
rent, n. A break (in ice).
rhyme off, to. Recite (poetry).
ride the ice, to. To stay up; —of seals, as when sunning themselves.
rift, n. Riff raff. "He belongs to the *rift.*" —v. i. Retch.
rifter, n. 1. A crack in the ice. 2. An open space in floes.
rightify, v. t. Rectify.

rig-out, n. Outfit.
rind, v. t. Remove bark from (pulpwood).
ringbolt, a. Steadfast; —followed by "to."
rise, v. t. Raise.
ritch, v. t. Reach.
road beater (ê), n. Vagabond; tramp.
roarin', a. Angry. "Stark *roarin'*.
rocker, n. A rock ptarmigan.
rockery ware. Crockery.
rookery, n. Confusion; ruckus.
root, n. Drink. "Nar *root* aroun'?"
Rorer. Aurora.
rosen, pret. Rose.
rote, n. The sound of the sea, or breakers.
rot-hole, n. A soft place in the ice.
round seal. A seal killed and ripped but not yet skinned.
rowt, n. Hard time or work.
rudge, n. Ridge.
run, n. Trip out on the ice.
rusty jacket. A harp seal in its second year. Also *rusty ranger*, when the rounded spots have not yet opened to harp shape.
s. Omitted in 3d person sing.
saddle, v. i. Agree; get on.
saddleback, n. 1. A harp seal in the fourth year. Also *sadler*. 2. In pl., lice. 3. A young gull.
saddle-dog; n. An old harp seal.
salmon, n. The stages of growth have names running from *fry* through *parr* and *grilse* to *kelt* or *slink*.
sail off goose wing, to. Sail with sails spread before the wind.
salt, fresh. Ice spread on seals to prevent rotting.
salt bulk. Fish in its storing vat.
sample, n. Example.
sarnly, sarny, adv. Corruption of *certainly*.
saucy, a. Pugnacious; —esp. of seals.
scad, n. A light, thin coating of snow. Also *scat*.
scalluped up. 1. Cut into. 2. In difficulties.
scarrited, p. a. Scared.
scatter, n. A few.
scatterin', a. Occasional. —*scatterin' times*, now and then.
scavenger brigade, the. Dogs prowling at night for food.
scheme, n. Mischief.
scoff, n. 1. A hearty meal; boiled dinner. 2. A scoop. —*v. i.* To eat heartily.
score, n. A notch cut in ice-clumper, to hold a ship's cable when mooring to ice.
scote, n. A job; task. —v. t. Drag; tow.
scouse, n. = *lob scouse*.

scrammed, a. Chilled through.
scrapple, n. A lot of seals.
screecher, n. A sun-burned seal.
scrip, n. Prescription.
scrubble, v. t. and i. Scrub.
scruffy, a. Turned brown; —of seal.
scruge (dz), v. i. To push (through a throng). Also *scrooze*.
scudge, n. Flurry.
scul, n. School (of fish, not of seals).
sculp, n. The skin and fat of a seal together; pelt. —v. t.
scun, v. t. 1. Scan. 2. To give steering directions from the "parlor."
scurwink, n. A kind of seabird. Also *haigdown*.
scutter, hinder. The hind fin of a seal. Also *scutter*, or in pl. *scuts*.
seal, n. The seal has special names as follows:

	hoods	*harps*
1st year	young hood	white jackets
2d year	bedlamer	rusties
3d year	currier	bedlamers
4th year	dog hood	saddlebacks

seal dog. A heavy iron hook.
seal finger. A finger infected by seal fat.
seal runnin'. Seal hunting.
sediment, n. Sentiment.
sell, n. Sale.
selvage, n. The edge of ice.
servitude, n. Service. [Not jocular.] "Ticket o' *servitude*."
settlin' powders. Sedlitz powders.
shackle up, to. 1. Join. 2. Stop working.
shad, n. A light fall (of snow).
shade, v. t. Shed.
shantsy, n. A hovel.
shanty, n. Chantey.
share man. A fisherman working on shares.
sharooshed, a. Taken aback; surprised; also, disappointed; disgusted.
sheave, v. i. Back water (with oars).
Sheila's brush. The equinoctial storm of spring; —from St. Patrick's wife. Also *Sheiler*.
ship green, to. Stow (cod) without cleaning.
shipped out. Broken down; through with work.
ship's husband. The man responsible for maintenance of a ship; supervisor; inspector.
shockin', adv. Very. "*Shockin'* fond o dat by."
shool, v. i. To hang round in a manner arousing suspicion. —*shooler*, n.
shore gang. Those of the crew left aboard.
shoutin' tangle, a. Great confusion; fight.
shuck, v. i. To slip down in the water; —of seals.

side-lights, n. pl. Hair on either cheek extending down to the lobe of the ear.

side sticks, n. pl. Beams roped to a ship's side to ascend or descend by.

signalize, v. t. and i. Signal.

sile, n. Seal. —*silin',* sealing.

silver-hair, n. An old man.

sinc, n. Zinc.

sish, n. Fine, slushy ice; new and thin ice.

skein, n. A long string, as of seals or ice.

skiff, n. A small, two-masted boat.

skilly, n. = *lob scouse.*

skinny, a. Dangerously close to an accident.

skinny-wappers, n. pl. Eskimo skin boots.

skip, n. Captain.

skipper, n. A courtesy title to any one.

skirr, v. i. To take a short walk; hurry.

skungeon bucket. A bucket on schooners for collecting filth.

slam, all of a. In a hurry; violently.

slatchy, a. Descriptive of water containing loose ice.

sleeve vest. A reefer.

slew o' y'r h'eye. A very short time; once over.

slew round, a. A short walk.

slide, n. A sled or sleigh.

slinge (dz), v. i. Loaf; idle. —*slinger,* n.

slingo, to go. Denotes violent action or noise.

slinky, a. Thin.

slings, in. Retarded; held up.

slitters, n. pl. Small, thin pancakes cooked in pork fat.

slob, n. Ice in large, rounded pieces, such as is penetrable.

slovey, a. Soft.

slub, n. Liquid fish offal.

slut, n. A tea kettle, with large base, shaped as a truncated cone.

smack, n. A short time. "We'm 'll be out a *smack* yet."

smack, a cold. A hard knock on the ice; —said of ships.

smallagen, n. An old dog seal.

smatchy, a. Tainted; spoiled; —of meat.

smellers, n. pl. Whiskers (of seal).

smutty, n. A seal just forming its saddle.

snaz, n. Old maid.

snear, v. t. Snare.

snick, n. A cartridge that fails to go off.

snifter, n. A drink.

soffy, a. Soft.

softs, n. pl. Bare feet.

soggy, a. Deep laden; —of ships.

Solomon Gosse's birthday. Any of the days (Sun., Tu., Th.) when duff must be served because of a law which this worthy had enacted.

songster, n. One given to singing (about ship).

sove. Pret. of *save.*

sparables, n. pl. Sharp nails; hob nails in boots.

spare road! Get out of the way; gangway.

spell, v. t. Carry. "*Spell* some wood from the yard."

spern wheel. Sperm whale.

spile, n. A spigot in a cask.

split, v. t. To get as one's share. "He *split* four hundred cantles out o' her."

splitter, n. One who splits and guts fish.

spot, n. A herd of seals; a "patch."

spottedy, a. Spotted.

sprag, v. t. To put a brake on (a wheel).

spray, a. Spry.

sprayed, a. Chapped; —of hands.

spring, n. Used in referring to years not as '19, '21, etc. but as "*spring* o' the sheets," "*spring* o' the Wadhams."

spun out. Exhausted.

spurt, n. A taking (of seals).

spy master. Barrel master; a man who spies for seals.

squad, n. A large lot.

squamish, a. Squeamish.

square-bender, n. A debauch.

squat, v. t. Crush.

squatter, n. = *stationer.*

stabber pole. An iron-shod pole used to push away loose ice. Also *starber pole.*

stage, n. Wharf.

starrigans, n. pl. Stunted trees; also, small young green firs.

start, n. 1. A spur of iceberg projecting below water. 2. The straight point of a gaff. 3. A tine of a pitchfork.

stationer, n. A Labrador codder who settles on shore for the summer. Also *squatter.*

steel, v. t. Sharpen on a steel.

steeve, v. i. To walk silently.

stern, by de. Down aft; sunk down.

stew, v. t. To get (men) dissatisfied.

stick on, get a better. Go faster.

stick, v. t. To mark (pans) with flags.

stick, up de. In trouble.

stick-up, n. A starched collar.

stinggo, n. Rum; liquor.

stole away. Pret. of *stow away.*

stoutish, a. Tempestuous; as, a *stoutish* block of a day.

strad, n. The upper leather of a shoe.

straight, a. Deep in the water; —of ships.

strap, n. 1. An endless rope to haul skins aboard with a winch. 2. A reckoning of ten skins.

straw, n. A blade (of grass).

stray, a. Queer; odd; —from *astray.*

streel, n. A dirty, slovenly woman.

strick, v. t. and i. Strike; shoot.

string, n. A hawser.

strouter, n. On a wharf or fence, one of the perpendicular poles.

studdy, v. t. Steady.

stummick, n. The chest and bronchial tubes; —from *stomach.*

stunned, a. Stupid; extremely foolish; silly.

suck, n. Sucker.

suddren, a. Southern.

suent, a. Bending; pliant.

sugee, n. Disinfectant. —v. t. Wash with a disinfectant.

sun-hound. An illusory sun, seen when in the ice.

Sunday. Corruption of *sunny;* as, "gettin' on de *Sunday* side o' somebody."

superstitious, a. Suspicious.

swag, v. t. and i. Carry.

swagger, v. t. Throw; heave.

swatch, n. An open place in the ice. —vi. i. Shoot seal in swatches.

swatcher, n. One hunting with a gun on the ice; —perhaps from *seal* and *watcher.*

swile, n. and v. Seal.

swill, n. Swell (in the ice).

swim, in the. In the day's work.

swinge, v. t. Singe; scorch.

swinger, n. One given to antics or gesticulations.

switchel, n. 1. A drink of water and molasses. 2. Old boiled tea.

synagogue. See *pew.*

taiscown, n. A small bit of pork.

take, n. One who easily takes offense.

—*take, a hard.* Any hard job.

take, v. i. To become vexed; be sensitive.

—*take for a ride,* Jolly; josh.

—*take root, to.* 1. Run away. 2. Become damaged.

talk to a girl, to. To court.

tally down, to. To note (one's number of seals) on a tally stick.

tamp, v. t. To fill in with moss.

tapers, interj. A mild oath.

tarry, v. i. Stay.

teeveen, n. A patch on a boot.

terrible, a. Wonderful; as, *terrible* cures.

th. Usually pronounced *d,* as in *de, dese, dose.*

they, pron. For *them;* as, they'm half swiles *they*selves.

threaten, v. i. Promise; as, he *threatened* to give me money.

Tibb's eve. Never.

ticket, n. 1. A captain's or mate's certificate from the examining board. 2. Room berth.

tickle, n. A small strait.

tide waiter. Custom house officer. Also *tide wader.*

tierce, n. Forty gallons.

tilt, n. A hut (of a trapper or fisherman).

tinder-crack, n. A term of friendly address.

tint, v. t. Taint.

tiser, a. Comparative of *it is.* "Dar 'tis an can't be no *tiser.*"

to, adv. At. "Stop where yer *to.*"

togged off. Dressed in one's best; with all sails set.

tolt, n. A rather high, sharp-pointed hill.

tom'awk, n. A hatchet.

tongue bangin'. Scolding.

tootootler, n. Teetotaler.

top high. At high tide. "The water was *top high.*"

Torbay nag. A small rough-haired Newfoundland horse.

tot, v. t. Total.

touched, a. Ice-blind; affected by ice.

trace out, to. Explain.

tow o' fat. A few seal sculps, from three to five.

trash, n. Foolery; nonsense.

travel, n. A trip away from the ship on the ice.

trimly, a. Trembling.

trip, n. 1. Load, as of seals. 2. Cargo, as of limestone or oil.

trot, v. t. Deceive; jolly. —n.

tuckamore, n. A scant growth of spruce.

turly. Corruption of *thoroughly.*

turnscrew, n. A screwdriver.

turr, n. A murr (bird); as *Turr Island.*

un, pron. It; him; also, you.

unrigler, a. Irregular.

urr. Other.

v. Used for *f;* as *ven* for "fin"; *vur* for "fir."

vait, n. Vat.

vamp it, to. Walk.

venimy, a. 1. Angry; spiteful. 2. Strongly impelled; desirous. Prob. from *venomous.* Also *venomis.*

verge, n. Edge.

voilin, n. Violin.

wad, n. A large group, as of seals; a bunch (of ice).

wag, n. Swell (of ice).

wagon, n. A tow (of skins).

walk back, to. To reverse. "*Walk back* de winch."

wangle, n. A stick projecting below the bowsprit for men to stand on—while pushing away ice.

warm, n. A warming. "Get a *warm*."
wash board. A board on the side of a boat to keep out spray.
washout, n. Failure.
water bear. Polar bear.
waterfall, n. A form of bustle for hanging the dress round the body.
water horse. Fish taken from the vat.
wavey, n. A kind of wild goose.
way (ai), n. Home. "Where's your *w'y?*"
wayhead, n. Headway.
way ice. Open ice.
wedderish, a. Boding storm; —from *weather*.
welt, n. and v. Drink.
whabby, n. A kind of sea bird.
wheel, n. Whale.
—*wheelin'*, n. Whaling.
wheeler, n. Steamer.
whelp bag. A seal's afterbirth. Also *whelping bag*.
whip it, to. 1. Run; hurry. 2. Sing well.
whipline, n. Rope used in loading sculps, to draw out the wire and hold sculps from dragging on the ship's side.
whipping, a. Very. "*Whipping* good."
whiskey-jack, n. The Canada jay.
white coat. A harp seal under one month. Also *white jackets*.
white nose. A man spending his first winter in Newfoundland.
windrod, a. Riding at anchor with head windward.
wing pound. One of the storage spaces for seals below deck.
wipe, n. A vicious thrust; swipe.
wonnerful, a. Very;—corruption of *wonderful*.
word, to have the good (or *bad*). To be optimistic (or pessimistic).
word out, to. Recite (not sing).
work, v. t. Kill and skin (seals). —*work crosshanded*, work alone.
wrinkle, n. Periwinkle.
yaffle, n. A small armful; bundle. —v. t. To gather or file (a yaffle).
Yankee slack. Soft coal.
yary, a. 1. Energetic; smart. 2. Early. 3. Wary.
youngster, n. One going for first time to the ice fields.

GEORGE ALLAN ENGLAND.

CAMP SANS SOUCI,
Bradford, N. H.
October 16, 1925.

[Mr. England has a large number of additional items which for various reasons of editorial policy cannot be printed at present.—*Editor.*]

OBSERVATIONS ON THE BROAD A.

If "the broad A" divides America (as the initial *h* has been said to divide England) into three classes—the confident, the anxious, and the indifferent—the fact is not surprising. For, as we might expect from the flat or unsupported position of the tongue in its articulation, and as any historical English grammar will show, *a* is the least stable of sounds. The efforts of many elementary school teachers and professional teachers of elocution to acquire—and propagate—a natural use of the broad A in just the right places have been, as Max Beerbohm might say, "rather Herculean," but never, so far as my observation goes, successful. As a native of Ohio, I began at an early age to notice that my pronunciation of *a* before spirants differed from that of Englishmen and New Englanders whom I happened to meet, and made the natural (and largely correct) assumption that they used a great many more broad A's than I did. I was much surprised, therefore, when I began to notice about ten years ago that certain New Englanders not only used the broad A in *grass, ask,* etc., but something like the flat A in certain words (namely those with *a* before *r* plus consonant or *r* final, and the exceptional word *father*) where I had the broad A.[1]

Later observation has shown me that the pronunciations of *Harvard, car,* and *father* as hæˈvəd, kæˈ, and fæˈðə (æˈ represents a sound intermediate between à and æ) are not general—at least in the cultivated speech of Boston and the neighborhood—but, on the other hand, not uncommon. Since coming to Harvard in 1923, I have repeatedly heard them on the

[1] Cf. Rupert Hughes' story "'A' as in 'Father,'" *In A Little Town* (Harper, 1917), p. 374:

"Orson Carver had for a time stimulated amusement by his droll talk. He had been suspected for some time of being an impostor because he spoke of his university as 'Havvad.' The Carthaginians did not expect him to call it 'Harrvarrd,' as it was spelled, but they had always understood that true graduates called it 'Hawvawd' . . . Orson had bewildered them further by a sort of cockneyism of misappropriated letters. He used the flat 'a' in words where Carthaginians used the soft, as in his own name and his university's."

subway, in the shops, and on the way to football games. "Park your car here." "pæˈk jə kæˈ hiə." "Get your Harvard and Dartmouth colors." "ŋeˌ tʃə ˈhæˈˌvəd n ˈdæˈˌtməþ ˈkʌləz." Before *r* final the vowel is a little lower and more retracted than before *r* plus consonant.

Having observed that these pronunciations were in general characteristic of uncultivated speech, I was at first inclined to ascribe them to Irish influence. This seemed quite plausible, as seventeenth and eighteenth century pronunciations[2] could easily have been preserved in rustic Irish speech, and introduced into New England when, in the words of James Russell Lowell, "it became New Ireland." Nevertheless, a number of the speakers were, to my knowledge, not of Irish descent.

At the beginning of the school year 1924-5, I decided to observe, as closely as possible, the speech of my sixty Harvard and Radcliffe freshmen, as well as some thirty University Extension students I had in Boston. In order to eliminate, so far as possible, self-consciousness on the part of the subject, I had these students read their themes aloud to me in conference, taking notes at the time or immediately afterward. Most of these subjects were, of course, unfitted for my purpose, because of travel, preparatory school training, Jewish parentage, etc., but one student proved to be very interesting.[3] He was born at Dover, New Hampshire, of New England parentage on both sides, lived most of the first six years of his life in Montpelier, Vermont, and has lived since that time in Saco, Maine. An extract from my notes on his pronunciation follows:[4]

Before *lf, lv, ff,* and *ph* final, he normally has à. E. g. *behalf, calf, half, halve, halves, calves, chaff, graph, telegraph, laugh,*

[2] Cf. e. g., R. E. Zachrisson, *Pronunciation of English Vowels, 1400-1700,* in *Göteborgs Kungl. Vetenskaps-och Vitterhets-Samhalles Handlingar,* 1913. For a full discussion of the early history of these sounds in America, together with numerous examples, see Professor G. P. Krapp's recent work, *The English Language in America* (Century, 1925), Vol. II, pp. 36-86, and especially pp. 50-51.

[3] Name to anyone who may be interested.

[4] In order to supplement the information provided by his reading, I asked him to pronounce a short list of words taken from J. S. Kenyon's *American Pronunciation.*

staff. In *Calvary* and *Calvin* he has æ, and in laughter and salve â.

Before *nt* final, *nt* not final, and *ntsch* he normally has â. *Aunt, can't, chant, grant, advantage.* (æ in *staunch,* but he may have misunderstood the word.)

Before *mp,* he normally has æ, as in *example, sample, ample,* and *champion.*

Before *nce* final, and *nts* not final his pronunciation fluctuates between à and æ. *Advance, chance, dance, enhance, France, glance, lance, prance, trance* have à; while *finance, romance, expanse, manse,* and *answer, Frances, lancer, lancet* have æ.

He uses æ^{1} in *argument, dark, bar, artistic, farther, sergeant, march, part, star, large, remarks, varsity, partridge, cartridge, Clarke* (surname), *father, guard,* and æ in *psalm* and *calm.*

These pronunciations I believe to be typical for a large number of speakers of native New England stock, and explainable as survivals of eighteenth century pronunciations. As for the pronunciation of æ^{1} before *r* plus consonant by speakers of Irish descent, any one may hear it hundreds of times in Boston and the neighborhood. It seems that *a* before *r* plus consonant, which in normal ("Western American") speech is â, tends to become ɔ in the South Atlantic states and æ in the North Atlantic. E. g., *Darn* (imprecation), which is dârn in Western U. S., approaches dɔn in North Carolina, and dæn in New England. There are sporadic exceptions. The word *arse* (the rump) represents, I believe, a solitary case in which the eighteenth century æ has become general, and that because in this case the literary use has preserved the spelling, and the vulgar use the pronunciation. The æ in *partridge* and *cartridge* are common in dialect. Charleston, (S. C.) has kept the æ in *palm* and *calm,* and (with stress on the ultima) *a* final, in papa and mamma. Pə'pæ, mə mæ.

In general, it seems to me that among "the indifferent"—the largest, and linguistically the most important of the classes mentioned at the beginning of this paper—the æ is steadily increasing. It is also true, as has often been observed, that the New England "broad A" is less broad, i. e., higher and more fronted, than the British. Most of the genuine broad A's that I have heard have been from older people, from the very careful (who are perhaps unconsciously influenced by the remarks of Richard

Grant White on the subject),[5] and from the affected. The last are usually Westerners, who not only use a very broad A, but, in an excess of zeal, use it in such words as *fancy, massive, classic, contrast* (noun), *enhance, romance.*[6]

[5] *Words and Their Uses,* p. 62. "It may here be pertinently remarked that the pronunciation of *a* in such words as *glass, last, father,* and *pastor* is a test of high culture. . . . Next to that tone of voice . . . . which indicates breeding rather than education, the full, free, unconscious utterance of the broad *ah* sound of *a* is the surest indication in speech of social culture which began at the cradle."

[6] These are all from my own observation within the past school year, but none of them, I believe, from the speech of undergraduates, as they would swell the list too much. One of my former Radcliffe students uses nothing else. *Hat, have, man,* etc., all have the broad A. And she comes not from Scotland, but from St. Louis.

Miles L. Hanley.

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"AMERICAN SPEECH": A NEW PERIODICAL.

Dialect Notes heartily welcomes a new contemporary, *American Speech,* a magazine dealing with the English language in the United States and Canada. It is published monthly by Williams & Wilkins, at Baltimore, Md., and is edited by Professors Louise Pound, University of Nebraska, Kemp Malone, Johns Hopkins University, and Arthur G. Kennedy, Stanford University.

The magazine fills a need. It is designed to provide opportunity for the publication, both by scholars and by amateurs, of articles on American, or (to adopt Miss De Witt's word) Americanadian, English pronunciation and usage. In the last quarter century a great deal of knowledge of the English language having a direct bearing on problems of present usage has been gathered by specialists in the field, which is not easily accessible to great numbers of teachers and other interested people who are not specialists. The greatest need to-day by way of improving American speech and writing is not the zeal of "Better English Weeks" and manuals of "How to Do It," but information—knowledge both of language history and principles, and of the actual facts of cultivated usage. *American Speech* will do its part toward disseminating such information if it reaches the circulation that it should reach.

The first number, October, 1925, promises well. The opening article on "Conservatism in American Speech," by Professor George H. McKnight, is an admirably fresh and authoritative account of facts of great interest to Americans, presented with that scholarly fairness and poise which was to be expected of its author. Other well-known contributors to this number are Professors Pound, Malone, O. F. Emerson, and Dr. Morris Fishbein.

An important feature of the magazine is its bibliographical department, with reviews of recent books on English and rather full lists of books and articles in the field, and brief notices of activities and projects of investigators and societies that are of interest to students of the English language. Finally, the Contributors' Column bids fair to prove an interesting forum for

discussion and for interchange of samples of English "as she is spoke and wrote."

There is a good field for a periodical of this type, not too technical to be of general interest and not too popular to have scientific value for those seriously concerned with the fate of American English.

J. S. KENYON.

Hiram College.

EDWARD STEVENS SHELDON.

By the death of Professor Sheldon, on Oct. 16, 1925, America is deprived of one of her few great philologists and the Dialect Society loses its first Secretary, the leader about whom its founders rallied. It was in 1889 that the Society was brought into being, in Cambridge, by the enthusiasm of a group of scholars in various departments. Later, when it had emerged from his fostering care, Professor Sheldon became its President, as he was President, at different times, of the Modern Language Association of America and the Dante Society of Cambridge. From 1884 to 1921 he was Assistant Professor, then Professor, of Romance Philology at Harvard. In the latter year he retired, and was named Professor Emeritus.

The son of a clergyman, Edward Stevens Sheldon was born in Waterville, Maine, on Nov. 21, 1851. In 1872 he graduated from Harvard, and went abroad to devote several years to study, mostly in Germany and France. In Berlin he was the pupil of Adolf Tobler. He had the all too rare advantage of a thorough training, not only in Romance, but in Germanic and Indo-European Philology as well, indeed, during his first half dozen years of teaching at Harvard, where he was appointed in 1877, his work was mostly on the German side.

To his unusually comprehensive equipment, Professor Sheldon added the thoroughness of a scholar, the caution, the clarity, the independence of a judge, and something of the imagination of a seer. His facts were never called into question; his decisions were always respected. Aside from an admirably condensed German grammar (the product of his youth), his work consisted, on the one hand, of sundry articles and monographs on linguistic and literary topics; on the other, of his magnificent, almost life-long task of revising the etymologies in Webster's Dictionary, now the New International. To this great enterprise he brought all his gifts of erudition, industry, and judgment; and for it the American public will forever remain his debtor. It is to be regretted that he did not live to complete a treatise on Anglo Norman nor a book on the French element on English, in both of which subjects he was expert; but in what he did leave us we have more than adequate cause for gratitude and admiration.

C. H. Grandgent.

THE NEGRO DIALECTS ALONG THE SAVANNAH RIVER

There are three dialects on the Savannah river. The Gullah, or principal dialect, which extends along the whole South Carolina seaboard and up the Savannah river for about thirty miles; the Swamp Nigger, which begins where the Gullah leaves off and reaches up to within forty miles of Augusta, Georgia; and a small but distinct area the dialect of which is little known and which has, I believe, no name. This linguistic tract begins about fifteen miles below Augusta and reaches down about forty miles. It has but a narrow belt on the Georgia side but on the Carolina it extends inland about twenty miles. The negroes, unlike the Swamp Niggers who live on hunting and trapping with an occasional brief patch of cotton raising, are agricultural. They are a remote and undisturbed folk. Abominable roads meandering God knows where are their only means of communication, with the exception of the river. A small stern wheeler, the Altamaha, makes weekly trips between Augusta and Savannah, the weather permitting, and this vessel will stop anywhere along the bank to pick up a passenger or a bale of cotton. But three passengers during its trip of as many hundred miles does not show very much intercourse between the natives. There are no towns, and the most optimistic real estate imagination could hardly find a gathering of huts sufficient to call it a hamlet. Trade is still carried on chiefly by barter, chickens and eggs being the media of currency.

In the following pages I have attempted to give phonetic transcriptions of the every-day dialect. Negroes, when talking to white people, will consciously modify their speech so that it is quite hard to get a close approximation of the language as they speak it among themselves. I have several times had the good fortune to listen in upon them unawares, and the bits of conversation I reproduce have been transcribed as nearly according to my memory of those cases as possible. It will be noted that I have first written in type the conversations in the conventional spelling which all writers on negro dialect use, writers who imagine that just because a dialect is spoken by a nigger it must be the same in Virginia, Florida, or Louisiana—which is anything but the truth. There is a greater and more colorful variation among negro dialects than exists among the white people

of our nation. But the reason I use this conventional spelling is because the conversation seemed bare and colourless when written in the queen's English. Below I put the phonetic transcriptions.

I have despaired of ever transcribing the peculiar negro drawl; after spending three years among the niggers I have even wondered whether I can really reproduce it accurately in speech. It is this drawl chiefly which distinguishes the three dialects along the river, otherwise they have much in common. All pronounce short A as in *fat* like open E in *bet;* conversely open E as in *head* is pronounced like close E, and *head* becomes *haid.*

Peculiarities of syntax and morphology will, I think, be clear from the context; many are common to all negroes.

The Woman That Was Four Hundred Years Old

One raw October day I came upon a negro grave-yard clinging to a little path which threaded its way up a valley so choked with pines and gumtrees, grape-vines and somber masses of Spanish moss that a perpetual twilight hung over it. At the bottom was a little brook which murmured incessantly over its pebbly bed and in coursing gave off a light mist which drifted eerily among the tree trunks and the little hummocks beneath them which marked the graves.

In the country, negro graves rarely have tombstones. The negroes are desperately poor, and yet there is not one of them but carries some bit of burying insurance. But the survivors of the deceased, with true philosophy, when the inevitable hour comes, prefer to have an elegant funeral, which with them is synonymous with a protracted picnic, rather than waste the money on a bit of stone. Still these mounds show an expenditure of affection which is as lavish as it is ridiculous and as ridiculous as it is pathetic.

Bits of broken blue china, fragments of green and amber bottles, quartz pebbles often covered with tinfoil, a faded cotton flower from an abandoned hat, some mother of pearl ornament from an umbrella handle, in fact every sort of gilt and glitter which constitutes the treasure of a Jackdaw's nest, is used by the negroes to decorate their graves with. Lately, around Augusta, the tiny coons have been buying wonderful wax flowers

which are housed under glass tumblers, but it will be a long time before such glory percolates through the poverty of the country.

I stood for some time musing upon these pretensions of immortality when of a sudden I saw one mound with an unusual decoration—a pair of withered black hands. Raising my eyes, I beheld a woman blacker than the blackest shadows, a total eclipse save for a pair of sorrowful bloodshot eyes. She was glancing at me furtively as she knelt on the mound, resting her weight upn her knuckles as only negroes and monkeys can.

"Well, aunty," I said, "I didn't see you."

"No sah, thank you sah."

nou sə þeŋ kyou sə

"Don't get up, aunty"—from her rising to speak and her great age, I judged her to be one of the old time niggers who were trained to rise whenever a white person addressed them.

"Yessah, thank you sah."

yezə þeŋ kyou sə

"And who's buried there, aunty?"

"At's mah six husban."

ez mə siks hʊzbn

"Well then, you must be right old."

"Yes sah, ah's fo hunnahed yeahs ol."

yezə az fou hʊnə yiz oul

"Four hundred, well you must have seen the Civil War;—you did? Well, and was that very long ago?"

"Yes sah, at's way back yander—at's mo'n fo hunnahed yeahs.

yezə ez wei bek yʊndə ez mounfou hʊnəd yiz

"Well, well, and so that's your sixth husband—he must be very cold on a day like this."

"Yes sah, but not dis yeah ol niggah, Law Gawd, massa he jes

yezə bn a diʒ yiə oul niqə lɔ gɔd mezə î dʒez

wahm as he kin be!"

wam z î kin bî

"Yes?"

"Yes sah, ah done wrap he feet an he han wid cotton, yes sah,

yezə a dʊn rep î fît n î hen wid ka-n yezə

an ah put blanket in he daid box, and he ovahcoat an all he best

n a pʊ bleŋkt n î deid bok n î ouvəkou n al î bez

cloes, yes sah, an all he oddah cloes al fole up an ah put dey in
klouz yezə n al î adə klouz a foul vp n a pu dei n
de daid box wiv he, an al de ting an ting dat he ebber had.''
î deid bok wiv î n al î tîŋ n tîŋ ət î ebə heb

''Ah, then of course he must be very comfortable.''

''Yes sah, an ah done put whole quaht ob cohn likka in he
yezə n a dɒn pv houl kwat əb koun likə n î
daid box too.''
deid bok tou

''And why did you do that, aunty?''

''Well sah, dat ole niggah he sho like he cohn likkah an ah
we sə et oul niqə î ſou lâk î koun likə n a
do all ah kin for make he daid box coffabul, yes sah, massa, an
dou al a kin fou mek î deid bok kɔˌfəbl yezə mezə n
ah sweah to de good Gawd dey aint nufin in de house any
a swe tə dî quq qa ei ent nvfn n î aus einî
mo whut belong to he, nutin a-tall, no sah, nuthin a-tall!''—here
mou hwət blaŋ tə î nvfn ei ta nou sə nvfn ei ta
she raised her voice and accentuated every word, slapping the grave with her bony paw as if she wished her sixth husband to take cognizance of the fact thereof.

''Well, then, he certainly shouldn't bother you for anything else, aunty.''

''Yo reckon sah?''
you rekn sə

''Why of course he won't.''

''Massah, ah know yo all quality an ah kin tell yo is a frien
mezə a nou you al kwaltî n a kn teil you z ə fein
to us brack niggahs, an ah's gwine tell yo sumpfin potent
tə vz brek nig-əz n az gwain teil you svmfn poutnt
(important) whut happen to me. Well sah, befo dis niggah
hwvt hepn tə mî wei sə bîfou iz nigə
die he buy disyeah blue pitchah''—here she pointed to some
deid î bai iʒyi blû pitſə
fragments of blue china with which she had indented a pattern on the grave. ''an when he dry he go to de pump an he pump
n hwein î drai î gou ta î pvm n î pvm
e full an he doan drink outa nuffin but disyeah blue pitchah.
î ful n î doun driŋ kout nvfn bat diʒyi blû pitſə

Well sah, an aftah he daid ah need disyeah pitchah for mah
wei sə n eftə î deid a nîd dĭʒyi pitʃa fou ma
own self an furdeh mo it wuh buy wid mah yearnins too so dat
oun seilf n fėdə mou hit wuh bai wid ma yëninz tû sou det
de reason ah doan put e in de groun wiv he. Well sah, anden
î rîzn a doun put î n î graun wiv î wei sə n en
come de nex evnin aftah ah bury he (here her voice sank to a
kvm î neiks îvnin eftə a bei î
strained whisper) an ah in de cabin all alone an ah go gits me
n a n î kebn al oun n a gou gits mî
to sleep on de flo—adh doan risk no chance wiv de baid cyause
tə slîp n î flou a doun risk nou tʃens wiv î beid kyɔz
dat wha at he die. Well, suh, ah ain been sleep no time when
et hwa et î deid wei sə a en bin slîp nou taim hwein
ah wake up and e all dahk and ah heah he hant[1] walk roun de
ah wek vp n î ɔ dak n a yiə î hànt wak raun î
cabin till he fine de pitchah an den he walk spang[2] fru de wall
kebn til î fain î pitʃə n ein î wɔk speŋ frû î wal
an doan use de do n nufin an ah hyeah he hant walk fru de
n doun yûz î dou n nvfn n a yiə î hànt wak frû î
yahd to he pump. Den ah hyeah he pump an he pump an
yod tə î pvm ein a yiə î pv pn î pvm pn
bymby ah hyeah de wahtah come splashin an nex de hollow soun
baimbai a yiə î wɔtə kvm spleʃn n neiks î holə soun
when he fill up he pitchah. Den de pump still an ah hyeah de
hwein î fil vp î pitʃə ein î pvm stil n a yiə î
hant drink and he breave deep lak he alway do when he drink.
hànt driŋk n î brîv dîp lek î alwei dû hwein î driŋk
Well sah, an den when mawnin come dahs dat blue pitchah
wei sə n ein hwein mɔnin kvm daz et blû pitʃə
puntop[3] de pump box e way he alway do, an ah tek de pitchah
pvntap î pvm bok î wei î alwei dû n a tek î pitʃə
an ah come spang hyeah an ah brek e an put e roun de grabe
n a kvm speŋ hyiə n a brek î n put î roun î greib
lak yo all see.''
lek you al sî

[1] *haunt* = a ghost.
[2] *spang* = immediately, very directly.
[3] *puntop* = up on top = on above.

"And have you had any trouble since?"

"Yes sah, an den las evnin ah wake up an ah hyeah disyeah
eze n ein les ˌîvnin a wek vp n a yiə diʒyi
hant rumblin roun de shelf lookin fo he pipe lak he alway do
hànt rvməlin raun î ʃeilf lukn fou î paip lek î alwei dû
an ah hyeah he rumble an he rumble an he rumble but he hant
n a yiə î rvməl n î rumәl n î rvməl bvt î hànt
ain fine no pipe cyase ah put he pipe in e daid box wiv he.
ein fain nou paip kyaz ah pvt î paip n î deid bok wiv î
Den bymby ah hyeah e rumble come closa an closah an ah powful
ein baimbai a yiə î rvməl kvm klousə n klousə n a poufl
wan hollah, "At ole pipe ain hyeah, ah put it in de daid box
wɔn hollə et oul paip ein yiə a pvt î n î deid bok
wiv you," but Lawdy Jedus ahs so fraid ah jes keep mah eye
wiv you bvt lɔdi dʒîdəs az sou fred ah dʒeis kîp ma ai
tight close cyase ah fraid see mah ol hant so ah prey to de good
tait klouz kyɔz ah fred sî ma oul hànt sou ah prei t î quq
Gawd an Sain Paul an Nebukehzezzeh an all de Holy Posles
qɔw dn sein pɔw n nebvkəzeizə n al î houlî pozl
an ah had de Good Book whut ah alway sleep wiv an ah talk
n a heb î qub buk hwvt a alwei slîp wiv n ah tɔk
to de Good Book an ah ax de Good Book to dribe mah ole hant
t î qub buk n a eks î qub buk tə draib ma oul hànt
in de groun wheh he belong to be. Den bymby when ah's
n î qraun hweiə î bîlaŋ tə bî n baimbai hwein az
praying ah hyeah de buhd singen an ah know e mos time fo e
prein ah yiə î bëd siŋən n a nou î mous taim fou î
sun up but ah keep mah eye close an feel fo de do an run out
svn vp bvt ah kîp ma ai klouz n fîl fou î dou n rvn out
in e yahd an when ah open mah eye fo see de day Lawdy Gawd
n î yad n hwein a oupn ma ai fə sî î dei lɔdi qɔw
tain mawnin lak ah figgag a-tall but e black dahk an ah fraid
tein mounin lek a figə ei-ta bvt î brek dak n a freid
tuhn me roun cyase ah know dat hant stan in de do jes lak e
tën mî roun kyoz a nou et hànt sten n î dou dʒeis lekî
alway do so ah stahts runnin an prayin to de good lawd Jedus
alwei dû sou a stats rvuin n prein tə î qud lɔd dʒîdəs
an dat hant he staht runnin afta me fas he kin run an ah hyeah
n et hànt î stat rvnin eftə mî fes î kin rvn n a yiə

he foot print go spang on de groun lak when he run fo ketch
î fut prin gou speŋ n î graun lek hwein î rɒn fou ketʃ
he fet hawg but ah kep runnin an runnin an runnin an ah clah
î fet hɔg bɒt a kep rɒnin n rɒnin n rɒnin a a kla
ah run for hunnahed mile an den ah see de sky git kina white
a rɒn fou hɒnəd mail n ein a sî î skai git kainə hwait
roun de aiges but still ah keep prayin an runnin down de road
raun î eidʒz bɒt stil a kîp prein n rɒnin daun î roud
but ah don res till ah see de sun up an e bright light an den ah
bɒt a doun reis til a sî î sɒn ɒp n î brait lait n ein a
res an look roun an e hant gone. Den ah feel powful po an
reis n luk raun n î hànt qɔn ein a fîl poufl pou n
most got git me to sleep right in de road an ah sleep an when
mous qot qit mî tə slîp rait n î roud n a slîp n hwein
ah wake up Law Gawd ah's spang in wagon wid some Beech
a wek ɒp lɔ qɔw az speŋ n weqn wid sm bîtʃ
Ilan niggahs an dey all clah ah been shoutin an laffin an weepin
ailn niqəz n ei al kla a bin ʃoutn n lefn n wîpn
lak ah wuh in chehch."
lek a wë n tʃëtʃ

"Haven't you any children or kin folks, aunty?"

"Law Gawd, ah got fo hunnahed but dey all daid."
lɔq qɔw a qot fou hɒnəd bɒt ei al deid

"Well didn't they have any children?"

"M-m-m-m-h, dey all got fo hunnahed too."
m ei al qot fou hɒnəd tû

"Well, why don't you get some of them to stay with you at night, you know hants never come round where there's company and candles?"

"Law massah, doan yo all tink none dem wuffless tresh gwine
lɔw mesə doun you al tiŋk nɒn deim wëfləs treʃ gwain
come roun mah cabin wheah all dey's s is a hant is at, no sah
kɒm raon ma kɛbn hwe al deiz z iz a hànt z et nou sə
dem too fraid!"
deim tû freid

"But you're not going back there to sleep alone are you?"

"No sah, clar to Gawd ah ain!"
nou sə kla t qɔd a ein

"Then what are you going to do about it?"

"Well sah, ah reckon ah git me anoddah husban to sleep wiv,
weil sə a reikn a git mî ənodə hʊzbn tə slîp wiv
ats what ah do."
ets whʊt a dû

"You'll have to hurry to get one then won't you?"

"Law bress yo no sah, ah done got me one all pick out long
lɔw breis you nou sə a dʊn qot mî wʊn al pik out lɔŋ
befo mah six husban daid."
bîfou ma siks hʊzbn deid

The White Brother Hears the Parable of the Lord and the Sick Chicken

One hot Sunday afternoon I found myself plodding over the rolling pine barrens between Aiken and Ellentown in dire need of a drink of water. Mounting a rise, I came at last in sight of open country, long flats of waving broom grass, dry gold in the sun, diced here and there with tiny squares of scraggly corn fields which by their helter-skelter arrangement I knew to be of African ownership. Out of half a dozen log cabins, I singled out the largest and made for it. But soon I perceived it was no dwelling, or rather it was the dwelling of the Omnipotent—unless it be true, as some Georgians still aver, that the negro has no soul; in which case the Omnipotent, like myself, might be hanging around out of curiosity, for a negro church in action is a strange and wonderful thing.

Round about were a score of broken buggies in varying degrees of dilapidation, queer contraptions held together by wire, string, and the grace of God. Nearby were hitched their horses and mules, horrible caricatures of pestilence and famine, with the upholstery worn completely from their ribs where the rope tugs chafed. Now, however, they were all dozing through the sweet oblivion of this blessed day of rest. All about was a muss of empty lunch boxes and newspapers, for a darky Sabbath is an all day affair. They come in the morning as the spirit happens to move them, and keep on gathering like thunderclouds in the heat of the day. Communion is held a dozen times or more in the morning, not in dinky little thimble cups but from an enormous gilt china wassail beaker from which each devotee does his best to comply with those beautiful words of the Lord's

supper, "—drink ye all of it." Blackberry wine is used, and each theophagist takes such tremendous swigs that it is not long before he feels the spirit working within him and he is ready to expound. At noon the congregation retires to its lunch boxes and in a short while is again the sanctuary of the Most High drinking communion, for does not the Good Book say, "This do ye as oft as ye meet, in remembrance of me." Songs and sermons alternate between bouts until every one is filled and has delivered his bit of divine experience. Then the congregation adjourns for supper lunch and immediately goes at it again, for then the real orgy of salvation begins, which lasts way into the night.

The door and windows were wide open and from the threshold where I stood I could see that the interior was jammed to capacity, there was nothing but a sea of bobbing black heads, for all the world like a bit of fly paper completely covered with flies. In spite of the horrific odor that sultry afternoon, I stuck to my post and heard the Word as expounded with great earnestness by a preacher, barefoot and collarless, but swathed in an immense swallow-tailed coat of unimpeachable integrity. Part of his sermon ran as follows:

"——an ah tells yo bedun an cistern,[1] cistern an bedun e
en a teilz you beidn en sistën sistën n beidn î
salbashum ov de Lawd as e reveal in e Gubbuk an e mouf of
selbeiʃəm əv î ləw dz î rîvîl n î qubuk n î mauf əv
e possel[2] an e siple an' Nebbacchademus an Belebub an all e res
î posl n î saipl n neibəkədîməs n Beilîbəb n al î reis
ov e saint is jes bout puzakly lak dissa yeah:
əv î sein z dʒeis baut pzeklî lek dizəyi

"When yo all wan mek yoself a grumshun[3] fine dinnah lak
hwein you al wan mek youself ə grəmʃən fain dinə lek
foah weddin oah frunrul oah oddah cazum ob rejoicin, an yo
fouə weidn ouə frâmbl ouə odə keidʒm əb wîdʒoisn en you
all gits yo out in de roos fo ketch yo a fet frium size chicken,
al qitz you aut n î rûs fou ketʃ you ə fet fraim saiz tʃikn

[1] *bedun* = brethren; *cistern* = sisters.
[2] *possel* = apostle; *siple* = disciple.
[3] *grumshun* = excellent, possibly a variant of scrumptious.

does yo all pick out de sick an de po an de halt an de bline[4] an
dʊz you al pik aut î sik n î pou n î hɔl n î brain n
de measly chicken? No-sah-whooza, doan yo all know dat you
î mîzlî tʃikn nou-sə-wûzə doun you al nou et you
doan? Well ah figgah dat e salbashum ob Gawd am puzakly
doun wal a figə et î selbeiʃm ɒb qɔd m pzekli
de same way when yo daid an stan afo e jumment seat ob de
î seim wei hwein you deid n sten afou î dʒɒm-nt sît ɒb î
froane ob Gawd wid de cesspool[5] angel on de right han wid
froun ɒb qɔd wid î seispûl eindʒl n î rait hen wid
de serpin an de terrapin wid ə golen crown on ay haid an e golen
î sërpn n î terəpn wid î qouln kraun ɔn ei heid n î qouln
slippah on ay feet an e golen hahp in ay han, an on de lef han is
slipə n ei fît n î qouln hop n ei hen n ɔn î leif hen z
de smoke poen out ob de buhnen pit ob brimstones an toahment.
î smôk poun aut ɔb î bënən pit ɒb brimstounz n touman
Well, bedun an cistern an cistern an bedun when yo all come
weil beidn n sistën n sistën n beidn wein you al kɒm
for stan attaway foah de jumment seat ob de froam od de Lawd
fouə sten etəwei fouə î dʒɒm-nt sît ɒb î froum ɒb î lɔq
God Amighty does yo all reckon de Lawd gwine pick he out
qɔ dəmaitî dz you al reikn î lɔq qwain pik î aut
de wus niggah lak de po an e measly chicken fo lib wid he in e
î wɒs nigə lek î pou n î mîzlî tʃikn fou lib wid î n î
cesspool palace? No-sah-whooza, he nevah, he pick out de fet
ceispûl peləs nou-sə wûzə î neivə î pik aut î fet
frium size chicken; Gawd, he doan wan no sick chicken no mawn
fraim saiz tʃikn qɔd î doun wan nou sik tʃikn nou mɔn
yo all.
you al

"An now den bedun an cistern, cistern an bedun ah sees a
en nau ein beiden n sistën sistën n beidn a sîz ə
white buddah stan in de do an ah's gwine ax de white-buddah
hwait bʊdə sten n î dou n az qwain eks î hwait bʊdə
respekful to elebate disyeah moahtal conggegashum wid some
rîspekəbl tə lelîbait dîʒyi moutl ko,gîqeiʃm wid sm
excludin wohds—Come on white buddah gib us yo elebatin, an
sklûdn wëdz kɒm ɔn hwait bʊdə qib ɒs you lelîbeitn n

[4] *bl* is always sounded *br*.
[5] *cesspool* = celestial; *serpin* = seraphin; *terrapin* = cherubin.

yo, bedun an cistern, cistern an bedun mek room for de white
you beidn n sistën sistën n beidn mek rum fou î hwait
buddah."
bvdɔ

A Golden Crown

Leaving the river on the Carolina side, I wandered up a sharp gulley, when of a sudden I heard afar off the sound of singing voices. The ravine was nearly choked with scrub oaks and hickory, so it was possible to come close to the singers and observe them undetected. In due time I saw the light of a clearing through the brush and peered through. In an open space a few hundred yards square was a peculiar southern scene, a negro washing.

On crude platforms were braced perhaps two dozen wooden wash tubs, close together, for it is the custom of the sociable black folk to make a red letter day of blue Monday. The women all congregate from their cabins from the radius of a mi'e or more and wash the whole day through, laughing, talking, and singing, and then at last go home in the gathering dusk with immense baskets of wash balanced on their heads and ten tribes of pickaninnies trailing after them.

The tubs are left where they are, being in the nature of permanent fixtures, and the soapy water, quite as permanent a fixture, is left in the tubs week after week; for soap is expensive and darkies are poor. Hence the dirty water often reaches such a point of grime supersaturation that washing becomes really a dyeing industry.

It was early afternoon and, the washers being tired, there was more singing than washing going on. I heard an old familiar spiritual chanted over and over again with that weird and melancholy sweetness which only a negro can invent and none but the negro can render. After singing for some ten minutes, swaying their bodies, clapping their hands, and stamping their feet as their prehistoric ancestors did in their leafy jungles in the home across the sea, they would suddenly stop singing, but, still keeping time, rub, rub the clothes on the wash boards, and then, as if by one accord, wring the clothes dry, whirl them over their heads and with a great shout commence the song again; the same words, the same tune.

"When ah gits deah ah's gwinna weah
hwein a qits de-ə az gwainə we-ə
A golen crown, a golen crown,
ə qoulən kraun ə qoulən kraun
A golen crown, a golen crown
ə qoulən kraun ə qoulən kraun
A golen crown on mah haid
ə qoulən kraun ɔn ma heid
An golen shoe on mah feet
en qoulən ʃû ɔn ma fît
An golen hahp in ma han,
en qoulən hop in ma hen
An a golen crown,
en ə qoulən kraun
A golen crown, a golen crown
ə qoulən kraun ə qoulən kraun
Ah's a gwina weah a golen crown
az ə gwainə we-ə ə qoulən kraun
A golen crown, a golen crown."
ə qoulən kraun ə qoulən kraun

(Here they turned to their tubs, rub, rub, scrub, scrub, thump, thump,—then wringing the garments they whirled them over their heads, and with a great shout):

"O-o-o-h Ga-a-a-wd,
ou-u-u qɔ-ɔ-ɔd
When ah gits deah ahs gwinna weah
hwein a qits de-ə az gpainə we-ə
A golen crown, a golen crown."
ə qoulən kraun ə qoulən kraun
(etc., etc. ad infinitum)

For a long time I stood watching them; poor women who for that whole day's back-breaking would get but a few coppers, quite content in their dream life, singing, singing, ever singing of an undoubted hereafter when black knuckles would rest and wash tubs would be no more and golden crowns would grace heads that had known no greater glory than a bandanna handkerchief. Finally I ventured forth in a fresh outburst of singing but no sooner was I noticed than all music ceased and there was

a great calm. All about I noticed shy glances and sheepish grins as I advanced.

"Good evening, aunty."

"Evnin sah."

ivnin sə

"Where does this road go?"

"It ain no road sah, e jes a little fambly road" (a polite way
hit ein nou roud sə i dʒeis ə lil femblî roud
of saying it was a private road and that I was not wanted).

"Yes, but where does it go?"

"E doan go at no place a-tall."

î doun gou et nou pleis ei-tal

"Now look here, you tell me how I can get back to Augusta."

"Lawd sah, ah dunno, ats a way back yandeh."

lɔ sə a dnou ez ə wei bek yendə

"Well, then, how can I get back to Sand Bar Ferry?"

"Well, sah, ef yo all walk down diyeah road, dis lil fambley
weil sə ef you a wɔk daun diʒyi roud iz lil femblî
road, yo come to Jo place an yo tek de lef han road till yo come
roud you kvm tə dʒou pleis n you tek î lef hen roud til you kvm
to Wakka place, ats wheah e raise gubehs[1] at, an yo tek de
tə Wokə pleis ets hwe-ə î reiz gûbz et n you tek î
lef han road again an when yoall come to Sam place, Sam e
leif hen roud gin n hwein yal kvm tə Sem pleis Sem î
bline-gawd niggah,[2] yo tek de right han an when yo git to
blaiŋ gɔ niqə you tek î rait hen n hwein you qit tə
misto Jone place (white people are designated by Mr. or Mrs.,
mistou dʒoun pleis
niggers only by their given names) den yo doan go no way yo
ein you doun gou nou wei you
jes go spang in de ferry."
dʒeis gou speŋ n î feirî

"My, is it very far?"

"No sah, it ain no place at all."

nou sə hit ein nou pleis ei tal

"Well is it a mile, five miles, ten miles?"

[1] *gubehs* = gubers, i. e. peanuts.

[2] *bline-gawd niggah* = blind God nigger, i. e. a Catholic nigger, a rarity and much avoided by the other niggers.

"Law Gawd no, it ain no place a-tall, no place a-tall."

lɔq qɹw nou hit ein nou pleis ei tal nou pleis ei tal

Soon I was on my way but as quick as I was out of their sight, I sat down and listened. In a few minutes I caught again the first faint feeble strains of the song, and, as their hearts rallied to it, it became louder. Finally I walked on, with here and there a strain of the eerie song accompanying me.

"A golen crown, a go— —own."

ə qoulən kraun ə qou- -oun

Elisha K. Kane.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1924

At the annual meeting of the Society in 1924 at Columbia University no report was rendered by the Secretary owing to an intrusion on the time of meeting by a group of the Modern Language Conference.

During 1924 the gains and losses in membership were very evenly balanced. The chief loss sustained by the Society was in the decease of our vice-president, Professor J. Douglas Bruce, a scholar whose eminent attainments and personal charm made him universally esteemed and beloved.

The important collection of dialect terms from Newfoundland in preparation by Mr. George A. England was enlarged and partly arranged for publication. Other collections not so far advanced were reported as available so soon as the funds of the Society permitted encouraging a hope of early publication.

A number of members volunteered to begin on the preparation of the American Dialect Dictionary by cutting and pasting numbers of *Dialect Notes* as a means of preparing copy on cards for editorial work. Action in this matter was postponed in view of the enterprise undertaken by the University of Chicago to prepare a historical dictionary of American English. The advantages which might arise through proceeding in close relations with it required consideration by the Society, and work done in advance of such consideration might be at variance with the method ultimately decided on. A discussion of this topic was made the chief feature of the annual meeting.

SECRETARY.

December 30, 1924.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY FOR 1924

Receipts

Balance on hand December 23, 1923	$325.12
Receipts from dues for 1924	293.83
Total Receipts	$618.95

Disbursements

Paid Tuttle, Morehouse and Taylor Co. for printing "Dialect Notes," Vol. V, Pt. 6, reprints, and mailing programmes for the 1923 meeting (Jan. 16, 1924)	$324.15
Paid the Orange Printshop for postcards and printing notices of 1924 dues (April 11, 1924)	7.50
Total Disbursements	$331.65

Total Receipts	$618.95	
Total Disbursements	331.65	
Balance on hand, December 26, 1924		$287.30

Permanent Fund

Amount of Permanent Fund, January 1, 1924	$161.07
Interest on Permanent Fund to December 20, 1924	6.41
Total Permanent Fund, December 20, 1924	$167.48

Treasurer.

December 26, 1924.

DIALECT NOTES

Volume V, Part IX, 1926

THE AMERICAN DIALECT DICTIONARY.

The plans for the Historical Dictionary of American English have now become sufficiently definite to make it a matter of importance that the collecting and arranging of the materials for the Dialect Dictionary should be undertaken without delay. The necessity for this work as a preliminary to the other has already been explained in *Dialect Notes* (Vol. V, pp. 317-321).

The first requirement towards this end is the enlisting of a sufficient number of volunteer workers, and it is earnestly to be hoped that every member of the Dialect Society will not only be prepared to participate in the work but will endeavor to persuade others to lend their aid. To a great extent, it is not a matter in which special knowledge is required; care and diligence are the most essential qualities, so far as the collecting of the material already in print is concerned.

The sources on which attention should first be concentrated are these:

1. All books (stories, novels, sketches, plays, poetry, etc.) from 1800 onwards, in which dialect and colloquial forms of speech are employed. Preference should naturally be given to writers who are clearly familiar with the dialect or idiom which they use, and are not merely assuming it for literary purposes, without any first-hand knowledge of it. It will also be an advantage if readers can select works containing forms of speech with which they themselves are well acquainted, so that they may be able to supply additional or corrective information.

2. Contributions to periodicals and newspapers, whether in the form of dialect tales, dialogues, humorous articles, etc., or in notes on words and phrases having a local currency. In noting these it is important to give exact particulars of locality and date, and to omit no detail which may throw light upon the present or past use of the word or phrase.

3. Material already brought together in glossaries appended

to local histories, etc., or in the volumes of *Dialect Notes*. In this case it would be most useful if all minor lists or single items were first excerpted, leaving the longer alphabetical vocabularies for later treatment. It will be convenient to have these ultimately reduced to the same form as the other material, but this may well be done at a later stage as the editorial work makes progress.

4. Collections already made, but not accessible in print. Wherever possible these should be printed in *Dialect Notes* or elsewhere, in addition to being copied on separate slips of paper for the dictionary. It is always more satisfactory to have a printed source to which reference can be made than an unverifiable manuscript note. This will naturally apply also to all further collections which may be made during the next few years with a view to making the dictionary more nearly complete. Each new list, whether long or short, should be sent for publication in full as soon as the compiler has no prospect of making any important additions to it.

For use in preparing the dictionary it is necessary that all this material be reduced to single entries on separate slips of paper (not cards); the most convenient size for these is six inches by four, as this corresponds with the slips which are being used for the Historical Dictionary. In the material collected for the latter a certain amount of dialect matter will necessarily be included, and it will be an advantage if the slips can be readily transferred from one collection to the other.

The arrangement of matter on each slip should be as follows:

1. In the upper left-hand corner the *word* under which the slip is to be placed. This should be given with its usual spelling, if purely a dialect word; if merely a dialect or colloquial form of an ordinary word, the standard spelling should come first with the actual spelling following within parentheses, e. g.

Something (*sutthin*), n. Dreadful (*dreffle*), a. Gather (*gether*), v.

2. In the upper right-hand corner the *locality* in which the word in question is used. It will frequently be simpler to add this (in abbreviated form) by means of a rubber stamp after all the slips from one source have been written out.

3. The *source* from which the information has been derived, preceded by the date. Care must be taken to distinguish between the date of use and date of printing; when these differ, the latter should be placed after the indication of the source. These particulars can, as a rule, be added to the finished slips by stamping, thus avoiding the tedious process of writing out the same heading over and over again.

4. The *entry* or illustrative *quotation* itself. This ought to be made as complete as possible, so that there may be no necessity for referring again to the source. Where glossarial articles or notes are of unusual length, and are not copied entire, this should be clearly stated, with some indication of what has been omitted.

Some time may be saved, and errors of copying avoided, by cutting up vocabularies or other matter and pasting the items on the slips. Commonly, however, two copies are necessary for this purpose, and if the items consist of single lines containing only a few words (as is frequently the case in vocabularies) the saving of time is less than might be expected.

The following may be taken as typical examples of slips based on printed matter:

Abisselfa: = A. Ga.
1835 LONGSTREET *Georgia Scenes* 94
In the good old days of fescues, abisselfas, and anpersants.

After (*a'ter*), adv. N. Y.
1804 FESSENDEN *Terrible Tract* 20
And not one soul took small pox a'ter (*rhyming with* matter).

Longlegger, n. Mass. (C. Cod).
1924 *Dialect Notes* V, 286
The hip-length gum boot is called "longlegger," a name which is quite appropriate.

Slips containing new and unprinted information should be so arranged as to show clearly (1) the pronunciation, if not sufficiently indicated by the spelling; (2) the meaning of the word or phrase; (3) the locality; (4) the extent to which it is used (whether common or rare; current, obsolescent, or

obsolete); (5) the kind of sentences or contexts in which it is employed; (6) the date; (7) the name of the collector, e. g.

Redden, v. Maine.
to tidy up a house Common
"Wait until I redden up a bit."
1926 E. K. MAXFIELD.

It will help greatly to reduce the time spent in correspondence if those who are prepared to assist in the work can themselves select the sources with which they propose to deal. To avoid duplication, a note of the work which has been chosen should be sent at once to the Secretary, with one or more alternatives in case some other worker may already be engaged on the same task. It will be a great step forward if a large proportion of the sources which must be excerpted can be appropriated in this manner during the first quarter of 1927.

W. A. CRAIGIE.

University of Chicago.

HUMPHREYS' GLOSSARY.

David Humphreys (1752-1818), a native of Connecticut and a graduate of Yale, rendered valuable military service to the American cause during the Revolution. He was esteemed highly by Washington, through whose influence he went abroad in 1784 as secretary to the commission appointed to negotiate commercial treaties with foreign powers. In 1790 he went to Portugal as America's first minister to that country. Later he served as Minister Plenipotentiary to Spain.

As early as 1786 Humphreys had gained some reputation as a writer. He was identified with the group known as the "Hartford Wits." Among his writings there are two dramas, *The Widow of Malabar,* and *The Yankey in England.* In the back of the last-named play there is a glossary, sometimes referred to as the oldest glossary of Americanisms in existence, dating back to 1815, the year in which *The Yankey in England* was published in Boston.

This glossary, containing 273 expressions, has special interest in view of the fact that in writing this play Humphreys, as he states in his introductory pages, had in mind the delineation of three distinct types of American character. He explains how the representatives of these types vary from each other because of different educational attainments. In the play General Stuart and Admiral Dixon represent American college-bred men who have attained distinction. Mr. Newman belongs to the middle class, educationally speaking, his schooling having extended only through the grammar school. Doolittle, the "Yankey," represents the third class. What school training he received was limited to the free public schools. Humphreys felt that this third type of American character was very little known abroad.

It is somewhat surprising that Humphreys did not arrange his list of words in absolutely alphabetical order. Some words in the list are spelled differently from the way they appear in the play itself. For illustrating the use of some of the words I have felt justified in placing in brackets excerpts from the play. Humphreys placed at the beginning of his glossary a paragraph of explanation:

Glossary

Of words used in a peculiar sense, in this Drama; or pronounced with an accent or emphasis in certain districts, different from the modes generally followed by the inhabitants of the United States; including new-coined American, obsolete English, and low words in general.

A

abord, for, on board.
afeard, afraid.
afore, before.
agin, again.
ant I, probably from, and I, used however rather as a negative. [I'm rather in a strait jest now, and don't want to stan chaffering and stickling, ant I. p. 22.]
a-nuff, enough.
argufying, arguing.
arter, after.
atarnal, eternal.
atarnity, eternity.
awful, ugly.
ax, ask.

B

ban't, ben't, } am, or as, or are not.
beeause, because.
berrying, burying. [I'll du as the boys du, when they go by the berrying-yard alone, in a dark night. p. 77.]
beleve, believe.
bile, boil.
bin, been.
bissy, busy.
buissness, business.
blud, blood.
boggling, difficulty, delaying, unnecessarily hesitating.
boost, raise up, lift up, exalt.
borrerd, borrowed.
boot, to boot, something given into the bargain.
bred-stuffs, all kind of flour, meal, farinaceous substances, grain. In England, corn is used as the generic term. In America, corn is always intended to apply to maize—otherwise called Indian corn—the most abundant and useful vegetable production in the United States, from the extreme northern to the southern boundary.
briled, broiled.
brussels, bristles.
buty, beauty.

C

calculate, used frequently in an improper sense as reckon, guess.
captivated, captured, taken prisoner.
cent, 1-100th part of a dollar—a copper coin of the United States.
clever, relating to moral character—not skilfulness or dexterity.
chaffering, holding a long talk.
chaunce, chance.
chirk, churk, brisk, lively, in good spirits.
chares, chores, trifling employments at or near home.
cleverly, very well.
close, clothes.
clus, close.
concarning, concerning.
cood, could. [I cood form a more righter judgment of you. p. 43.]
copper, formerly current money of the value of a halfpenny in England.

count (in provincial use), estimate, reckon.
cum, came.
cumfort, comfort.
curridge, courage.
critturs, creatures.
curious, extraordinary.
cuss, curse.
cussed, cursed.
cute, acute, smart, sharp.

D

darned, old English.
darter, daughter.
dasent, dare not.
despud, desperate.
despudly, desperately.
dilly dallying, wasting time for little purpose.
divil, devil.
druv, driven.
dreadful, used often as, very, excessively; even as it regards beauty, goodness, etc.
du, do.
dubble, double.
duds, old clothes.
dum, dumb.
dumpish, heavy, silly.
du pry tel (exclamation probably from) pray tell.
duse, does.

E

eend, end.
enny, any. [I don't incline to be with enny one who has a *familiar*, or that has enny thing to du with the old sarpent. p. 49.]
enny-wheres, any where.
e'en-a-most, almost.
extrumpery, extempore.

F

fairce, farce, fierce.
fairm, farm, firm.
farmament, firmament.
fleering, *flouting*, } terms of contempt, vulgar.
flip, liquor made of rum, beer and sugar, with a hot poker put into the mug to stir it.
flustration, extreme agitation.
fokes, folks.
forgit, forget.
forrerd, forward.
fort, fault. [Well, Mister if you don't understand plain English, that isn't my fort. p. 29.]
fortin, fortune.
fortino, fortizno, for aught I know.
forzino, far as I know.
f'rall that, for all that, or notwithstanding, etc.
friggit, frigate.
frolics, country festival sports.
frind, friend.
furder, farther.

G

gals, girls.
gawkey, awkward.
gimcracks (nice bagatelles), curious trifles.
gin, given, gave.
gineral, gin'ral, general.
gineration, generation.
g'ib, smooth, easy.
gownd, gown.
granny, grandmother.
guess, instead of being applied to things conjectural, misapplied to such as are past, present—certain; believe, think.
gum, foolish talk, nonsense. [I won't hear nun of your gum, p. 34.]
gumtion, sense, understanding, intellect.

H

han't, *havn't*, } have not
hansum, handsome.
harty, well.
hectored, bullied, insulted by domineering.

her'n, her own, hers.
heerd, heard.
hild, held.
hoss, horse.
huffy, ill-natured.
hull, whole.
hum, home.
humbly, homely. [Well, well, I know it now—hum is hum, be it ever so humbly. pp. 19-20.]

I

ile, oil.
improve, employ, occupy. [I should be glad to know, what kind of way you count to improve me in? p. 29.]
inyons, onions. [It is spelled *inions* on page 41.]

J

jeerings, contemptuous sneers.
jest, just.
jeesting, jesting.
jiffing, or *jiffin*, instantaneously.
jumping jings, jingoes, expletives indicative of confirmation.
jurk, jerk.

K

keow, cow. ['Tis well that cussed keows have short horns, as the proverb saies. p. 70.]
ketch, catch.
kill-dried (the preparation of the meal of maize or Indian corn for exportation), kiln-dried.
kittle, kettle.
kiver, cover.
knack, faculty of doing things with facility.
know'd, knew.

L

larning, learning.
leetle, little.
lengthy, long. [I looked nation poorly for a lengthy while arterwards. p. 42.]
licker, liquor.
lines, loins.
lovyier, lover.
lug (very vulgar) bring, bring in, lift, hand.

M

mad (not in the usual sense, insane), to make angry.
mainly, mostly.
mannerliness, good breeding, good manners.
marcy, mercy.
massiful, merciful.
mayn't, may not.
meb-be, may be.
munching (low word), chewing with a mouth full.
muggy, sultry, close air, very hot.

N

naborly, neighbourly.
nation, very extraordinarily. [—you were a nation deal wiser than brother Jonathan. p. 19.]
nationality, attachment to clan or country, belonging to, or fondness for a nation.
native (last syllable pronounced long), native.
neest, nest.
nice, smart, tidy, spruce.
nicely, in good health.
nip (original American), pint, half pint bowl.
notion, *notions*, *notional*, } used frequently not in the English sense of the words.
nuther, neither.
nick-nacks, trifling superfluous articles.

O

O, the dickens! exclamation.
obstropulous, obstreperous.
on't, on it, of it.
ort, ought.
outlandish, strange, foreign.

overmatch, superior.

owny towny (*owny downy*, *ounty tounty*) peculiarly belonging to one. [—my owny, towny, Lydy Lovett, the Deacon's darlin darter. p. 19.]

P

paerils, perils.

parfect, perfect.

parson, person.

peek, *peeking*, *peep*, } to observe slily and sneakingly.

pertection, protection.

pertest, protest.

pestered, very excessively.

plaguy, as a degree of comparison —very—to enhance the force of the word with which it is connected.

poke your fun, jeer, pester, plague.

potecary, apothecary.

poorly, miserably, ill.

prehaps, perhaps.

presarved, preserved.

pritty, pretty.

pluck, heart, courage, spirit.

put out, disobliged, offended.

Q

quarte, quart.

quiddities, trifling niceties, odd behaviour.

quiddles, disorder in the head, moping disease in horses, dizziness.

R

railly, really.

rather (pronounced narrow on the first syllable) frequently used to diminish or qualify the term to which it is applied—sometimes pronounced *ruth-er*.

reckon, calculate, depend on the fact, sometimes nearly in the sense in which guess is misapplied.

roiled, disturbed, applied to liquors and temper.

rubbige, rubbish. [Good riddance to bad rubbidge! p. 88.]

ruff, roof.

S

saie, say.

sabba-da, Sabbath-day.

saisse, or *sairse*, sauce. [—it has bin said by them of old time, "there is reason in roasting eggs," and that "what is sairse for the goose, is sairse for the gander." p. 55.]

saisy, saucy.

sarpent, serpent.

sarvice, service.

sarvant, servant.

sartinly, certainly.

scart, scared.

scholard, scholar. [*schollard* on page 79.]

seed, saw.

sen, since.

sheep, ship.

sha'n't, shall not.

shabby, *shabbily*, } applied to ill looks or appearance in dress, vulgar.

shood, should.

shugar, sugar.

shute, shoot.

shure, sure.

sitch, such.

slim, *slink*, } used in a peculiar sense. [I feel pretty slim. p. 40.]

snap, to break short.

snappish, petulant, easily provoked.

sneaking, used in a peculiar sense. [I've a sneaking notion—. p. 102.]

sparked it (young men keeping company with young women and sitting by the fire after the family has gone to bed), courting.

spook (a word used by the Low Dutch in some parts of America), apparition, ghost, hobgoblin.
spose, suppose.
spry, acute, nimble.
sperit, spirit.
spunk, courage.
staggers, horse-apoplexy, wild conduct, madness.
stan, stand.
stickling, hesitating, delaying.
stiddy, steady.
strait, straight.
stur, stir.
stunded, stunned.
stump, challenge. [I'll stump 'em all—. p. 102.]
sumwheres, somewhere.
swags, exclamation.
swamp it, ridiculous kind of asservation.
swimmed, swam.
swound, swoon.
swap, *swop*, exchange.
suzz! surs! a corruption from sirs.

T

tarms, terms.
tarnation, used in a peculiar sense.
tantrums, tantarams, do.
tatterations, do.
tawking, talking.
techy, easily irritated, froward.
telled, told.
toddy (beverage), rum, sugar and water mixed together.
to-rights, immediately, instantly. [I'll be back, to-rights. p. 53.]
trim, habiliments, dress.
trade, physic, medicine.
truck, to barter, exchange one thing for another.
trampoosing, traversing.
tuff, tough.
twang, nasal pronunciation.
twistical, tortuous, not above-board, not quite moral.
twitted, reproached.

U

underlin, an inferior animal.
unpossible, impossible.
uppish (vulgarism), proud, arrogant.

V

vacarme (French), to make a noise, racket, scold.
van, exclamation.
vaggers, do.
vartuous, virtuous.
Varmount, Vermont.
varses, verses.
vittles, victuals.
venture, offer a bet, lay a wager, stake.
vouch, vouch it, vouch on't, a species of asservation.
vow, do.
vum, do.
vumpers, do.
viges, voyages.

W

wage, or *wager*, to bet.
wood, would.

Y

yawping (probably from yelping), a noisy fellow.
yit, yet.
your'n, your own, yours.

Even a casual glance at these words shows that it is misleading to refer to them as Americanisms. Of the 273 words in the list over 150 of them represent pronunciations more or less common in England and in America before 1815. It is probable that

Humphreys' phonetic system, if he had one, is not to be relied on, for he seemed to be able to hear a distinction between such words as *beleve, buty, jurk, shute, shure, tuff,* and their properly spelled forms. The most interesting looking pronunciations are indicated by *atarnal, briled, cuss, dasen't,* and *saisse. Cuss* is a form attributed to the United States in the Oxford dictionary. It is hard to tell what pronunciation should be given to *saisse.*

The exclamations *swags, swamp it, vaggers, van, vumpers,* are interesting and are possibly Americanisms. They are not found in the Oxford dictionary.

Ant I is a good expression for people of an ingenious turn of mind to puzzle over. If Humphreys' supposition that it came from 'and I' is correct, its use in the passage excerpted is senseless. Probably it is the good old dialetical form *ain't* with its *i* knocked out.

Boost, bread-stuffs, calculate, chirk, cleverly, count, owny towny, quiddles, spark, stump, tarnation, twistical, in the senses indicated by Humphreys, may at present be regarded as American contributions to English speech. They are at least as good candidates for this honor as can be found in Humphreys' list.

Humphreys thought *darned* could safely be labeled "old English." The makers of the Oxford dictionary decided it is chiefly an American expression. Humphreys felt sure *nip* was an Americanism, but Francis Grosse in 1796 in the third edition of his *Classical Dictionary* included the word.

Humphreys' use of the following forms in their indicated meanings is earlier than the Oxford dictionary cites, *awful, boost, calculate, chirk, cleverly, critturs, cuss, darned, gals.*

Pickering's *Vocabulary* was published in 1816 and contains less than thirty of the words in Humphreys' list. Pickering probably did not see *The Yankey in England* in time to use it in his work. Besides, Pickering does not seem to have been interested in peculiarities of pronunciation. Bartlett in his *Glossary* made use of *The Yankey in England,* but he did not utilize fully its list of peculiar expressions. In his second edition in 1859 he included about sixty of the words found in Humphreys' Glossary, though he stated in the preface to his second edition that "Peculiarities of Pronunciation" constituted one class of Americanisms.

The Yankey in England was known, probably at first hand, to at least one of the readers for the Oxford dictionary because in that work *twistical* is taken from Humphreys' play.

A great many interesting words and expressions escaped Humphreys when he made up his Glossary. The following expressions and many others of the same nature are to be found in the pages of the play itself:

—send me to look for eggs in a mare's nest, p. 21.
I will stur my stumps and pluck up stakes tu, p. 32.
—you've got the wrong sow by the ear, p. 33.
You needn't stick your brussels up so high nuther, to make me sing small, p. 34.
I am as fine as a fiddle, p. 37.
I'll be even with you, if it rains pitchforks, p. 55.
I swouch it, p. 56.
But these marvellous cummings together beat old Rose in the gun-room, p. 87.

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NEW ENGLAND PROVINCIALISMS, 1818

In 1818 Thomas Green Fessenden published at Bellows Falls, Vermont, *The Ladies Monitor,* a poem intended to inculate all the female virtues. To the prosaic line (page 102),

> Mark and avoid provincial words and phrases

he appends the following note (page 171):

It may, perhaps, not be amiss to give a list of some provincial words and phrases which ought to be avoided by all who aspire to speak or write the English language correctly.

ant for am not
arbs for herbs
arn'd for earned
ary for any or either
ax'd for asked
bate for beat, a garden vegetable
ban't for are not or be not
beyend for beyond
bile for boil
brussels for bristles
cheer for chair
chimbly for chimney
compel for propel, as the boat is *compelled* by steam
cutlash for cutlass
cute for acute
come for came
disgest for digest
dicker for deal
driv for drove
drovyer for drover
drownded for drowned
eat for ate in the preterite
fit for fought
furder for further
gal for girl
groggy for intoxicated
gin for gave
hash for harsh
housen for household
hubble a rough projection or knoll
han't for have not
his'n and *her'n* for his and hers
jest for just
kag for keg

kiver for cover
lasses for molasses
larnt for learned
meaching for mean
million for melon
nother for neither
neeger for negro
nurly for gnarled
obstropolous for obstreperous
ourn for ours
pesky for troublesome
popular for populous, as a *popular* village
popple for poplar
quoto for quota
raly for really
refuge for refuse
rid for rode, and
rid for riddance
resk for risk
rutes for roots
sallet for salads
says I for I said
scrabble for scribble
sich or *sicher* for such
sign for design
sile for soil
splosh for splash
smudder for smother
squirm for writhe, or twist
spry for nimble
stunded for stunned
tantrum for tandem
taint for it is not
tenant for tenon
timorsome for timorous
valley for volley
viage for voyage
yender for yonder.

This catalogue may be greatly enlarged, and if teachers of youth would generally turn their attention to the subject, it would not only induce a uniformity of dialect, but prevent that ridicule which so frequently attaches to the use of what are sometimes called *Yankeyisms*.

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University of Chicago.

MAINE LIST

The following words and expressions have been observed mainly in northern, central, and southern Maine, and are fairly representative of the entire state, particularly in the rural sections.

Obsol. means obsolescent
Obs. mean obsolete

E. K. Maxfield.

Washington and Jefferson College,
Washington, Penna.

Note: Mr. Maxfield was born in Maine and has spent most of his life there, besides a part of every summer.

—a (final). Pronounced like —y or —er in such words as Amelia, America, Augusta, Canada, Ezra, Laura, Liza, Piazza, Veranda. Common.

aim, v. i. Intend. "I aim to do it sometime." Obsol.

alley-way (accent first syl.), n. A long hall in a house. "Hang your coat in the alley-way." Rare.

art-square (accent first syl.) n. Any large rug. Common.

—as ever I see, adv. phr. A very common word order which, of course, dates back to an earlier English provincial practice, "Them is as good apples as ever I see." Obsol.

—as I'm a mind to, adv. phr. As I please. "I'll do as I'm a mind to." Common.

aunt (arnt, never awnt) n. Female relative. Universal.

back-end-too, adv. Reversed. "He turned back-end-too." Common.

back-house (accent on first syl.) n. Privy. Obsol.

back road, n. phr. A wood road or an abandoned road. Common.

back-sides (accent on second word) n. pl. Posterior. Common.

baker-sheet (accent on first word), n. Dripping pan. "Biscuits are baked in a baker-sheet." Common.

bamboozle, v. t. To swindle or to deceive, "Don't be bamboozled into taking stock in those western oil concerns." Common.

batch, n. A quantity. "A housewife fries a batch of doughnuts." Common.

belly-wash, n. A wretched drink, "For coffee they give (past tense) us belly-wash." Common.

bill, n. Divorce. "Mrs. Jones has got a bill from her husband." Universal.

blue-nose, n. A native of Nova Scotia. Common.

boat (bout) n. Boat. Also humorous for dilapidated car, particularly if a Ford.

bon fire (boun fire) n. phr. Bonfire. Obsol.

bottom (bott'm), v. t. Humorous. A lazy person is said to bottom chairs for a vocation.

boughten, adj. Purchased in a shop. Boughten goods as opposed to home-made. Common.

brash, adj. Coarse, "The meal is too brash." Common.

broom-stick, n. Humorous for bridegroom. "The bride and broom-stick have returned." Rare.

burn off, or up, v. phr. Clear away, applied to fog, "The fog will burn up before noon." Common.

butcher (bootcher) n. Ordinary dealer in meat. Universal.

Canuck (accent on second syl.). French-Canadian. Obsol.

case, n. An incorrigible or an incurable; humorous term for a "cut-up"; serious, some one who deserves pity. Common.

chamber, n. Any bed-room on an upper floor; Also any second or third-story room. One retires to one's chamber; barn-chamber, shed-chamber. Common.

cheap skate (accent on cheap), n. phr. A disreputable person. Common.

clean up, v. phr. To eat all. Obsol.

close, adj. Near, stingy. Common.

clothes horse (cloz-hoss) n. phr. Clothes bars for hanging linen after ironing. Common.

coat (cout very rapidly enunciated). Coat. Example of so-called N. E. short o. Pronounced like boat, bone, toad, road, etc. Not a single vowel at all, but really a diphthong. Obsol.

colleges, n. pl. College buildings in a collective sense. "Take John to see the colleges." Common.

cousin (kuzz'n), v. t. To visit distant relatives. "I am going cousining." Common.

creatures (critters; cutters in southern Maine) n. pl. Any domestic animal; a disreputable person, especially a female. "She's a low-down critter."

cultch (cültch), n. Refuse of any sort; a litter; superfluous material; Sweepings. Universal.

curtain (curt'n), n. Window-shade. "Pull down the curtains." Common.

door-stool (accent on door). Threshold.

drain (dreen), n. Sink spout. "The water goes down the drain." Obsol.

ell-part, n. Same as ell, the single-story addition to the main structure. Common.

feels one's oats, adj. phr. To be important. "He was feelin' his oats." Common.

fiddle, v. t. To waste time. "Stop your fiddlin' and git to work." Common.

fiddle-faddle, interj. Pshaw! Nonsense. "Oh, fiddle-faddle! talk sense."

fits and starts, n. phr. Intermittent action. "My engine goes by fits and starts." Common.

fub around, v. phr. To be busy without accomplishment. "The carpenter fubbed around here all day." Common.

galluses, n. pl. Suspenders. Common.

garden-sass, n. Vegetables. Obsol.

gawk, n. An ungainly person. Rare.

gawk, v. i. To stare. "Don't stand there gawking." Common.

gawky, adj. Awkward in appearance, "She was a gawky child, being all hands and feet." Common.

gin (like g in grill). Give. "She gin it to me." Rare.

git-up-and-git, n. Enterprise. Common.

gone by, adj. phr. Spoiled by decay. "The bananas are gone by," "The corn is gone by" (meaning it is past its season). Common.

gorming, adj. Awkward; bigness; clumsiness; destructiveness (rare). Common.

gumption, n. Enterprise. Common.

guts, n. pl. Bowels; fat; stamina. Common.

handsome, n. Best clothes. "I'll wear my handsome seein' as it's Sunday." Obsol.

heft, v. t. To lift with intention to estimate weight. "Let me heft it." Common.

het-up, adj. Angry. "He was all het-up." Obsol.

hipped, adj. Drunk (same as tight). Common.

hog wrestle (—rassle) n. phr. Contemptuous term for a cheap or vulgar dance. "The dance last night was a regular hog wrestle." Common.

hoss-and-team, n. phr. Either a single horse or the wagon itself. "A farmer comes to town with his hoss and team."

in around, adv. phr. To encircle. "Drive in around the barn." Common.

in back of, prep. phr. Behind. "The shed is in back of the barn." Common.

jaw, v. t. To scold. "She jaws it mo'nin', noon, and night." Common.

jiner, n. One who has a weakness for secret societies. "I'm gittin' to be a regular jiner." Common.

junk, n. Chunk or large portion. Similar in use to hunk; a junk of wood for the stove; a junk of bread. Common.

keeping company (—kump'ny), v. phr. Courting. "John and Mary are keepin' company." Common.

kicking 'round, adv. phr. In the way; applied to (1) articles not in use; (2) to persons who get in the way. Common.

lace-curtains (lāce-cūrta'ns), n. pl. Any window drapery. Common.

lalligag around, v. phr. To act foolishly. Obsol.

—like (enclitic). Common in such expressions as spring-like, sudden-like, fresh-like, warm-like.

like here, v. phr. To appreciate a locality. "How do you like here?" "How do you like in Boston?" Common.

low-hanger, n. A low-brow, common person; among college boys it indicates the fellow who hasn't his lessons prepared. Common.

maineac (maniac), n. Humorous for a native of Maine. "I am a Maineac and proud of it." Common.

mash, n. v. In love. "John has a mash on Sally." Sometimes, "Jim is mashed on Sally." Common.

mayflowers (accent on first syl.), n. pl. Trailing arbutus *only*. Common.

meechin' (meechin'), adj. "He was so meechin' that butter wouldn't melt in his mouth." Common.

mess, n. A portion sufficient for a meal. "A mess of peas." Universal.

mosey (mózy), v. i. To go about one's business, "Well, I'll just mosey along." Rare.

mouth, n. "Sass," impudence. "Don't give me any of your mouth." Common.

mouthy, adj. Talkative or saucy. "He's a mouthy cuss." Common.

near, adj. Stingy. "The old man wouldn't give you anything; he's near." Common.

on the go, adj. phr. Constantly going somewhere. "She is forever on the go." Common.

ourn, pro. Ours. Obsol.

perk-up, v. i. Cheer up. "She perked-up considerably before I left." Common.

piddling, adj. Insignificant, or poorly done. "That is a piddling piece of work." Common.

pindling, adj. Sickly. "A sickly child would be called *pindling*." Common.

pizen-neat, adj. Over-neat; Sometimes used in complimentary sense. Common.

pop the question, v. phr. To propose. "John popped the question last night." Common.

porch (pohch), n. Shed or unfinished room in the "ell." Rare.

post, v. t. Advertise. "Sam Jones has posted his wife," (meaning he has advertised that he will pay no more bills of her contracting because she has left his "bed and board.") Universal.

previous, adj. Unwarranted. "Your judgment was too previous." (Most likely applied to a weather prophet whose prediction has not come true.)

put that in your pipe and smoke it. Common saying. What do you think of that? Common.

receipt (reseet), n. Recipe. 'Housekeepers exchange receipts for cakes." Common.

red up (redden up), v. phr. To make tidy a house. "Wait until I redden up a bit." Common.

rent, n. Apartment or rentable house. Universal.

rinktum (accent on first syl.), n. Party or dance. "Are you going to the rinktum to the town hall tonight?" Common.

road (roud, diphthong almost one letter). Any highway. Common.

sap'lasses, n. Maple sirup. Obsol.

s'ee (see), v. phr. Says he, "John says, s'ee," etc. Common.

shake-down, n. Temporary or improvised bed; a slighting reference to any form of bed. "Can you give me a shake-down for the night?" Common.

shimmy, or shimmy-shirt, n. Chemise. Common.

shock, n. A paralytic stroke. "He has had a shock." Universal.

slide, v. i. Coast. "Children go sliding." Universal.

something like (emphasis on like), adj. phr. Excellent or satisfactory. "That is something like." Common.

span, n. Two horses harnessed together. "Hitch up the span to the carry-all." Common.

sparrow-grass (sparrer-grass), n. Asparagus. Obsol.

spider, n. Frying pan. Common.

spleeny, adj. Ailing without cause. "There hain't nothin' the matter with her; she's just spleeny." Common.

spruce up, v. phr. To improve one's appearance. "He's spruced up considerably since I seen him." Common.

stagger around, v. phr. Humorous for walk. "Oh, I'm staggering around." Common.

stir one's stumps, v. phr. To get a move on, move quickly. "When I spoke he stirred his stumps lively." Common.

stone-boat (stoun bout), n. A wheel-less vehicle resembling a stout toboggan used for hauling large stones. Common.

stone wall (accent on wall), n. phr. Fence made of loosely piled rocks. Universal.

streak, n. Creek. Universal.

striker, n. An apprentice. Common.

strike-out, n. A new love affair, as when a young man and a young woman are seen in company for the first time with apparently serious intentions.

Mrs. J.: "Have you seen the new strike-out?"

Mrs. K.: "No. Who is it?"

Mrs. J.: "John Brown and Susie Green. They were at prayer-meeting together." Common.

stuck-up, adj. Proud. Common.

swill, n. Garbage. "Has the swill been collected yet?" Common.

team, n. Either a single horse or the wagon itself; same as "Hoss and team." "Git into the team and ride."

thank-yer-marm, n. A hollow in the road, especially in the snow.

tie up (accent on first word), n. Stanchion in collective sense. "The cows are in the tie-up." Common.

tight, adj. Drunk. "Hen Brown was tight last night." Common.

tight, adv. Fast and hard, strenuously. "I worked as tight as I could all the morning." Common.

tike, n. A small child. "He's only a little tike that high." Common.

too big for one's britches, adj. phr. Arrogant. "He's too big for his britches." Common.

turn-pike (accent on turn), v. t. To rebuild a dirt road; an amateur process resorted to by farmers when working out their taxes on the highway. "They are turnpiking the roads; so they are pretty bad." Obsol.

twan't none o' me. Negative expression. "I didn't do it, I am not responsible." Common.

up-the-spout, adv. Extinct. "The missing article has gone up the spout." Common.

vamoose. (accented second syl.), v. i. To disappear. "He has vamoosed." "Git out o' here, vamoose!" Common.

victuals (vittles), n. Food. "Set up and eat your vittles." Obsol.

want, v. t. Wish. "I want that you should go." Common.

watch-and-chain, n. Watch, a facetious use. "What time is it by your watch-and-chain?" Obsol.

whiz n. A wonder, or a fast worker. "He's a whiz for work." Common.

window-stool (winder-stool, accent on winder), n. Window-sill or ledge. "Set the plant on the window-stool."

won't (wunt), v. i. Will not.

wood-lot, n. Woods, primarily those left as a source of fuel. "John is down on the wood-lot this morning working." Common.

[It will be noted that a number of these expressions have been reported from other localities and from Maine many years ago. The present record is of interest as showing continuance or falling off in use.—*Ed.*]

SOME OBSERVATIONS UPON MIDDLE WESTERN SPEECH.

The locutions here collected are distributed more or less widely through the Middle West and the Southwest. It would be a rash enterprise to suggest boundaries, and I may venture to repeat with emphasis the phrase "more or less widely." Some of these idioms would be novelties as far east as Illinois. Others, not unknown on the Atlantic seaboard, deserve notice because in the Middle West they occur more frequently, or among more cultivated speakers. Most of them are highly characteristic of Kansas, which has been my chief field of observation for this study.* A large number of my examples are taken from The Kansas City Star, under which I include its morning edition, The Kansas City Times. Although published in Kansas City, Missouri, the Star represents fairly well the language of educated Kansans. It is widely read in this state, and numbers some Kansans on its staff. The collection might almost—but not quite—be called "Notes on Kansas Speech."

To attempt the tracing of sources would be an endless and probably a hopeless task. Many national and sectional elements are merged in the population of the Middle West; and, of these, various ones have doubtless contributed something to the common dialect—so far as there is a common dialect. Some characteristic expressions—such as *must not* denoting probability, and *wait on*—evidently have an ancient lineage, for they are reported in the *English Dialect Dictionary* from different parts of Great Britain. Others—like the dropping of *the* before *United States*—are plainly indigenous in this country, if not in this region.

I. Idiom and Vocabulary.

All the farther, meaning "as far as." "That's all the farther I got" is a statement sometimes made by brilliant students whose speech is otherwise entirely "correct."

* A few of the forms here considered (*drug, get to, taken* for *took, want in, want out*) were briefly mentioned by W. H. Carruth in his "Dialect Word List" (*Kansas University Quarterly,* vol. I (1892-93) pp. 95ff. and 137ff.).

Articles: use or omission.

a. *After while* (without *a*). "Not after while."—advertisement in Lawrence (Kansas) Journal-World.

b. *United States,* without *the.* "When United States entered the war." This form is gaining everywhere, perhaps, but is especially frequent in the Middle West.

c. *The most of* (the time, etc.). The idiom is used by at least one University professor of rhetoric. "The English alphabet, like the most of those of modern Europe, is derived directly from the Latin" (written by a college junior). "The most of them have these regulations" (a college dean).

Better, in elliptical statements. "It looks like rain; we better take an umbrella" (a college student). "It better bring back that $240,000."—Kansas City Star. "Springfield better watch out."—Ibid.

Choose with *to* (the preposition meaning "rather than"). "They chose the cage to muscular exertion."—Kansas City Star. A favorite expression for headlines in the Star: "Chooses Death to Capture"; "Chose Rabbit to Parole"; "Choose School to Harems," etc.

Do with interrogative and negative *have* (in the sense "possess" and the like). This seems to be practically universal among Kansans of all degrees of culture, except for some fastidious members of the older generation. The same locution is found in Missouri—I am not sure how widely—and occasionally in other regions. "Do you have some ink?" is the idiom here. The Kansan would never say, "We have no bananas," but always, "We don't have any bananas today." "I don't have my glasses on." "I don't have time to continue." A formal declaration drawn up by a group of high school youths (in Lawrence) contained the words: "and further state that we do not have any connection with any group whose . . . ." In a printed inquiry from the Superintendent of the Saint Louis public schools I read: "What physical defect or affliction, if any, does the applicant have?" I have never myself heard "Do you have a cold?" but am assured by students that the expression is normal.

In other sections the corresponding phrase is common in the

past tense: "I didn't have time to continue"; "Did you have your glasses on?" What is characteristic of this part of the Middle West is evidently the periphrastic present with *have.*

(*The*) *folks* often means not simply "the (my, our) family," as elsewhere, but may be restricted to the sense "my (our) parents." Step-parents, of course, may be included. Mr. Haldeman-Julius, in his story *The Ring,* reflects the usage: a woman says to her sister, "I try to keep the house just as it was when the folks were living." Later she speaks of her own "slaving for the folks." A college student told me, "The folks were in the hospital, and I had to look after my brothers and sisters." Pedantry sometimes corrupts the idiom, with laughable results; a certain young woman always says carefully "my folk."

Get to ("be allowed to" or "have the opportunity to"). Used by all genuine Kansans, at least of the younger generation. The expression is not peculiar to the state, but nowhere else have I heard it so constantly. A college freshman writes of Lydia Languish's "disappointment in not getting to elope." "Carrier number 4 . . . was unable to cross the Wakarusa to get to complete his route."—Lawrence Journal-World. "China didn't get to make its plea before a plenary session at Washington."—Kansas City Star.

Have (meaning "cause, direct") followed by *to.* This is the usage, I think, of most negroes in the neighborhood of Lawrence, and of many whites. It may be due to Southern influence. "I'll have him to call you when he comes in" (said to me by a salesman). "We wish to have every reader of the paper to see it and to think about it."—Editorial statement in the Lawrence Journal-World. "Some one had a local garage to send out for the car."—news item in the same paper. "Because of Milton's blindness he had others to read to him" (examination paper). "Dean B. had five of his students to take scholarships" (said by a negro graduate of the University).

Like as conjunction, replacing not only *as,* but also *as if.* "I felt like I had done something generous" (a college student). "The passage sounds like it was written by De Quincy" (a student). "Begins to look like legal lights will get their share." —The Topeka Capital. *Seems like* buzzes upon the ear; nowhere else, surely, is the phrase so hard-worked. "It seems

like I just can't stand it." "It seems to me like" (a University student in an intercollegiate debate). Sometimes one hears "seems like" or "looks like to me" appended to a completed sentence, somewhat as one might add a qualifying *maybe*. "This is the longest day I ever lived, seems like." A curious combined construction appears in a squib from the Osborn (Missouri) Enterprise: "It looks like that filling out an income tax return always worries the man. . . ."

Littlebitty, littabitty, littlebitsy, adjective. The pronunciation is distinctly that of a single word. This nursery term appears incongruously in the serious speech of many adults, even adults of considerable education. "My mother's a littlebitty woman" (a college student).

Must not, expressing inference. "P. W. says a few of his old friends must not know he is sticking around here. . . . He would like to see them."—Advertisement in University Daily Kansan.

Negative with *hardly, scarcely.* This is heard all over the country, I suppose. But in this region it is used almost universally, even by some would-be purists in speech. "The poor dog couldn't hardly get back again to where he started."

Not doing any good ("not accomplishing anything"). I heard a young man waiting in line at the bank say, "We aren't doing any good here."

Notions, notion-counter. The "small wares" of Boston. "Where the West begins" with respect to these terms, I do not know.

Trod, verb. "Trodding up and down stairs."—University Daily Kansan. " 'Mongst flowers pure I love to trod."—Kunderd's Gladiolus Catalog (Goshen, Indiana). This word I first learned in Kansas, and had regarded as peculiar to the Middle West. But I have recently found it (if this is the same verb!) in The Saturday Review of Literature: "a man who left school at fifteen to trod the hard road alone." EDD. records two verbs *to trod;* but to neither of them do the Middle Western uses listed above quite conform. In fact, the Middle Western meaning of *trod* seems to be of the vaguest.

Wait on, meaning "wait for." I am inclined to think that the *on* has better standing here than in the East. "Flour mills wait on Senate."—Kansas City Star. "Won't wait on a treaty."—Ibid.

Want in, out, etc. An idiom which, with its analogs, has a tremendous vogue in this region; and, I think, in Colorado.

a. The particle may be adverbial, without object. "All who wanted out didn't get out."—Wichita (Kansas) Beacon. "Do you want by?" a student said to me. "La Follette's son wants in."—Kansas City Star.

b. The particle becomes preposition. "Everybody who wanted on the band-wagon."—Lawrence Journal-World. "Lardner wants into the Harding cabinet."—Kansas City Star. "President's Secretary wanted in [i.e., desired to enter] cabinet."—Ibid. "Another wants in League."—Ibid.

c. Various analogous phrases. "Yanks want home again" (i.e., to come home).—Kansas City Star. "Our colonies want free."—Ibid. "The old crowd wants back."—Ibid. "When it [an organization] put over its indorsement for governor, some of the Republicans . . . declared in."—Ibid. "Schools ask in cabinet."—Ibid.

What is that? Is constantly interpreted, in a shop, as meaning "What is the price of the article?" Some of us, from other sections, unfortunately persist in asking the question when we wish to learn the name or character of the object.

II. Some Points of Form.

1. Excrescent dentals. The following have been observed in speech and writing: drownded, attact, attacted, equipted, acrost, wisht, prejudicet (for prejudice). Also misted (for missed): "the death of DeQuincey's sister, whom he greatly misted" (a college student's examination-paper). "Homer confinded himself to a very narrow idea" (a freshman's examination). It is noticeable that *wisht* for the present verb *wish*—never, I think, the noun—is heard from some otherwise careful speakers.

2. Verb-inflection.

a. The past tense and past participle of *drag,* both transitive and intransitive, are commonly *drug* in speech. "I thought the lecture rather drug," said a student to me. Now and then the form emerges in print. "Hinted that Postal Department may be drug into mess."—Coffeyville (Kansas) News.

b. The crude forms *have did, have saw, have came, have went,* and *I seen, I taken,* are of course found among illiterate

speakers. Most of these are known in all parts of the country, but *taken* as a past is, I think, sectional. I have not observed these forms among people who are critical of their own speech; but—quite another story!—they do appear now and then in the language of college students. Even one University instructor is charged by a student with saying, "I have saw it in the book."

c. *Done* for *did* is found higher up in the social and cultural scale than in the East. Members of University faculties have been known to trip. The country newspaper affords examples. "The town carpenter done the work for him."—St. Francis (Kansas) Herald.

But this is always the notional, never the auxiliary verb! So far as I know, in all American dialects except that of some negroes in fiction and perhaps in real life, the true auxiliary always remains *did*. There is differentiation: the same person who says "I done my best" will say, "Did you see him? I did not speak to him. I *did* boil the water."

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A WORD-LIST FROM THE OZARKS

The dialect common to the Ozark Mountain region of Missouri and Arkansas has been singularly slighted by students of the American vernacular. A number of Ozark terms are found in the books dealing with Americanisms in general, especially those compiled by Bartlett,[1] DeVere[2] and Thornton.[3] More words and phrases are recorded in the studies of Carr[4] and Crumb,[5] but by far the best treatment of this particular dialect is the word-list by Jay L. B. Taylor,[5] which appeared in this journal in 1923. Taylor's list contains 829 items, but about 350 of these are commonplace mispronunciations, grammatical errors, slang phrases, or vulgarisms. For some reason or other Taylor called his paper *Snake County Talk,* but his material was all collected in McDonald County, in the extreme southwest corner of Missouri.

The following list is drawn from a somewhat larger territory—McDonald, Barry, Stone and Taney counties in Missouri; Benton, Washington, Carroll and Boone counties in Arkansas. I have omitted all the words recorded by Taylor, with the exception of a very few cases in which I do not agree with his interpretation. The present paper is, therefore, to be regarded as supplementary to Taylor's list, and should be read in connection with it.

airish, adj. Cool, damp. Used with reference to the weather. "Hit's a-gittin' right *airish* on them ridges."

anent, adv. Opposite, against. "He was a-layin' in th' road down

[1] Bartlett, John Russell. *A Dictionary of Americanisms,* Boston, 1859.

[2] DeVere, Schele. *Americanisms: the English of the New World,* New York, 1872.

[3] Thornton, Richard H. *An American Glossary,* London, 1912.

[4] Carr, Joseph William. Words from Northwest Arkansas, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. II, Part 6, 1904, pp. 416-422; Vol. III, Part 1, 1905, pp. 68-103; Vol. III, Part 2, 1906, pp. 124-165; Vol. III, Part 5, 1909, pp. 392-406.

[5] Crumb, D. S. The Dialect of Southeastern Missouri, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. II, Part 5, 1903, pp. 304-337.

[6] Taylor, Jay L. B. Snake County Talk, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. V, Part 6, 1923, pp. 197-225.

anent th' spring-house.'' Edson & Fairchild[7] report this word as common in the Tennessee mountains. It is rather rare in the Ozarks.

apast, adv. Beyond. Often used figuratively. ''Mebbe Zeke never kilt thet feller, but I shore aint a-puttin' hit *apast* him.'' In Tennessee, according to Clapin,[8] it means simply *on the other side.*

back, v. To address. ''Maw she allus takes an' *backs* my letters fer me.'' Doubtless a heritage from the days when there were no envelopes, and the address was written on the back of the sheet, the corners being fastened together with wax.

bait, n. A meal, usually a light lunch. ''Afore I lit out I et me a leetle *bait* o' vittles.''

bait can, n. A dinner pail or lunch basket.

bar' neckid, adj. Naked. ''Them city gals was a-splashin' 'round' plum *bar' neckid.*''

blanny, n. Cajolery. [Blarney?] ''Ab Lee's *blanny* shore did gravel th' school-marm.''

britchin's, n. Diapers.

bush up, v. phr. To hide in the shrubbery. ''Tom he went an' *bushed up* down back o' th' church-house.''

bussy, n. Sweetheart. Not common. Clapin[9] reports it from the Tennessee mountains, and those who use the word in the Ozarks may be transplanted Tennesseeans.

call, v. To remember, to recall. ''I caint *call* his name.'' In the sentence ''I dasn't *call* his name'' the word means mention rather than remember. It is sometimes used instead of pronounce, and the hillman often says ''I caint rightly *call* thet word'' in referring to some strange word he sees in print.

carry, v. To lead or accompany. ''Jack he *carried* his hull fambly plum t' Bentonville.'' The *r* is elided, however, so that the word sounds pretty much like *cayed.*

carry on, v. phr. To behave in a rash or boisterous manner. ''I never seen nobody *carry on* like them gals fr'm Springfiel'.''

chap, n. Child. ''My least *chap's* ben right puny all summer.''

citizen-rifle, n. The muzzle-loading Kentucky rifle. Probably so called to distinguish it from military weapons.

clever, adj. Obliging, accommodating, generous. ''Lizzie shore is a *clever* critter, but she's kinder of a half-wit.''

clout, n. Sometimes used to mean *diaper,* and the combination *britch-clout* is heard occasionally.

colonel, n. This title is conferred upon prominent mountain men without any reference to military service. Nearly every auctioneer is an honorary colonel, as are many country lawyers and bankers.

[7] Edson, H. A. and Fairchild, E. M. A Word-List from the Tennessee Mountains, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. I, 1896, p. 370.

[8] Clapin, Sylva. *A Dictionary of Americanisms,* New York, 1902, p. 21.

[9] Clapin, Sylva. *A Dictionary of Americanisms,* New York, 1902, p. 87.

cooter, n. The common land terrapin. In North Carolina, according to Steadman,[10] it applies to a species of fresh-water turtle.

corset-waist, n. Corset cover. These garments are still worn by elderly women in the mountains.

counted, v. Reputed. "I allus *counted* Mary th' fightin'est woman in th' hull settlement."

coverlid, n. Counterpane. Carr[11] found this word common in the country districts about Fayetteville, Arkansas.

cripple, v. To limp. "I got so's I caint hardly *cripple* 'round'."

cymblin, n. A small, hard, striped gourd. Tucker[12] spells the word *cimlin,* and says it is a kind of squash. Bartlett[13] gives the forms *cymbling* and *cymnel.*

cymblin-head, n. A fool, a dunce, a squash-head.

dauncy, adj. Lacking appetite, manifesting a dyspeptic fastidiousness about food. "My ol' woman's got so *dauncy* like, we-all caint git her t' eat nothin' sca'cely." Taylor[14] defines it simply as "in poor health," and makes it practically synonymous with *puny.*

deem, v. To opine, to judge. Used occasionally in old ballads, sermons and set speeches, but very rarely in conversation.

dip, n. A mixture of powdered tobacco and molasses. It is taken on a chewed twig or *dip-stick,* like snuff.

durgen, n. An awkward, uncouth hillman, regarded as less polished and sophisticated than his neighbors.

each an' every, n. phr. Everybody, each and every person. "Mary she run right out an' tol' *each an' ev'ry* all 'bout it."

eat after, v. phr. Used with reference to the preparation of food. "Thet ol' woman's th' best cook I ever *et atter.*"

emmet, n. A big black ant. Carr[15] says that an emmet is an industrious person, but I have never heard the word used in this figurative sense.

enjoy, v. To entertain. "We-all tried fer t' *enjoy* 'em, but they shore was th' sorriest comp'ny I ever seen."

ever-who, pro. A transposition of whoever. "He allus give it t' Clary 'r Susy, 'r *ever-who* I was with."

feather into, v. phr. To shoot, to attack. "Ol' Cap Morgan he out 'ith his weepon an' *feathered inter* them fellers." Kephart[16] traces this expression back to the days of the long-bow in England.

[10] Steadman, J. M. North Carolina Word-List, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. V, Part I, p. 18.

[11] Carr, J. W. Words from Northwest Arkansas, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. III, Part I, 1905, p. 75.

[12] Tucker, Gilbert M. *American English,* New York, 1921, p. 245.

[13] Bartlett, J. R. *Dictionary of Americanisms,* Boston, 1877, p. 167.

[14] Taylor, Jay L. B. Snake County Talk, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. V, Part 6, 1923, p. 205.

[15] Carr, J. W. Words from Northwest Arkansas, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. II, Part 6, p. 418.

[16] Kephart, Horace. *Our Southern Highlanders,* New York, 1913, p. 288

fernent, or fernenst, adv. Beside, against, opposite. "His hat was a-layin' right *fernent* th' smoke-house." De Vere[17] spells this word *fornent,* and says that it is common to-day in Scotland and the south of Ireland.

foller, v. Follow. Used with reference to one's trade or profession. "Whut mout you-all *foller* fer a living'? .·. We-uns don't never *foller* a-takin' in strangers."

fore-parents, n. Ancestors, forebears.

fotch-on, adj. Imported, not made or produced in the neighborhood. "I caint stummick them *fotch-on* beans out'n cans."

frightment, n. Fear, fright. "Joe he lowed th' young-un war burnt t' death, but 'pears t' me like she jes' died fr'm *frightment.*"

gaily, adj. In good health. "My chaps is all right peart an' *gaily* now."

give-out, n. Announcement. "Did you-all hear th' *give-out* at th' church-house?"

givey, adj. Unsteady. "Th' big cheer's a-gittin' a leetle *givey* lately."

granny-woman, n. Midwife. Also used as a contemptuous reference to an irritable and childish old man.

heathern, n. Heathen, non-religious person or persons.

hedge-bird, n. The Southern shrike or butcherbird.

hipped, adj. Disabled or seriously injured. The form *hip-shot* is also common.

hippin's, n. Diapers, or cloths fastened about the waist.

hippoed, adj. Subject to some imaginary ailment. "Pore Elly's plum *hippoed* sense she got t' readin' them fool doctor-books." Tucker[18] says that hypochrondria was "vulgarly called the hypo" in England as early as 1711.

host, v. To entertain guests. "We-all ben a-havin' too dam' much comp'ny—th' ol' woman's jes' *hosted* plum t' death."

hull-gull, n. A social game played with grains of parched corn.

human-rifle, n. A muzzle-loading rifle of large caliber.

infare, n. A dinner on the day following a wedding, at the home of the groom's parents. Sometimes pronounced *enfair* or *onfare.*

infare days, n. The period immediately subsequent to marriage, the honeymoon. "Hit aint right ner fittin' fer a woman t' grub sprouts endurin' of her *infare days.*"

joree-bird, n. The Chewink or ground robin.

keepin', n. Something reserved or saved. "This hyar leetle jug is all th' *keepin'* we-all got lef'."

knob, from the, adv. phr. An expression used for emphasis. "Thet feller shore is a sport *from the knob.*" Thornton[19] found the same expression in a Florida newspaper dated 1840.

[17] De Vere, Schele. *Americanisms: the English of the New World,* New York, 1872.

[18] Tucker, Gilbert M. *American English,* New York, 1921, p. 142.

[19] Thornton, Richard H. *An American Glossary,* London, 1912, Vol. II, p. 969.

lavish, n. A large quantity. "Ef them Hammonses is a-lookin' fer trouble, they'll shore git a *lavish* of it."

lay out, v. phr. To plan, to purpose. "I shore *laid out* t' kill me a preacher."

let on, v. phr. To pretend; to exhibit any interest or knowledge. "I jes' *let on* like I wasn't a-keerin'. ... I seen 'em a-sneakin' out, but I never *let on.*"

longest, n. A long time. "I haint ben over thar fer th' *longest!*"

love-hole, n. A gully or ditch across the road.

make agin, v. phr. To injure. "I done quit a-chawin' terbacker—I seed hit was *a-makin' agin'* me."

may-pop, n. The edible fruit of the passion-vine; sometimes called wild apricot.

medlar, n. The meadow lark.

melt, n. The spleen. In common use in connection with the butchering of cattle and hogs.

more'n Carter had oats, adv. phr. A very large quantity. "I got *more* grief *'n' Carter hed oats.*"

morphodite, n. Hermaphrodite. Tucker[20] says this word was used in 18th-century England.

mother-wit, n. Native intelligence. "Thet 'ar Simpson boy's fine eddicated, but he don't 'pear t' have no *mother-wit.*"

muscle, v. To move or lift. "You-uns kin *muscle* thet leetle rock easy."

name, n. Self-respect. "He wallered me in th' dirt afore my fambly, Jedge, an' I los' my *name* right thar!"

name, v. To mention. "He shore never *named* it t' me."

narr', adj. Narrow.

narvish, adj. Nervous. "Ef he aint drunk, he's turrible *narvish* an' tetchous-like."

noon mark, n. A stake so placed as to mark the edge of the shadow cast by the cabin at noon. The clock, if there is one, is set according to the noon mark.

norate, v. To make public by word of mouth. Taylor[21] thinks it is usually the spreading of "depreciatory rumors of a personal nature," but I have not found it so. Campbell[22] says that in the Southern Appalachians "a man wishing to hold a public meeting has it *norated,* that is, the announcement of it spread by report."

paw-pawer, n. An outlaw, a fugitive from justice. Norton[23] says that

[20] Tucker, Gilbert M. *American English,* New York, 1921, p. 154.

[21] Taylor, Jay L. B. Snake County Talk, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. V, Part 6, 1923, p. 215.

[22] Campbell, John C. *The Southern Highlander and his Homeland,* New York, 1921, p. 145.

[23] Norton, Charles Ledyard. *Political Americanisms,* New York, 1890, p. 86.

"paw-paws are equivalent to bushwhackers, current in Missouri. The paw-paw is a wild fruit of the genus *Asimina*, on which the bushwhackers are supposed to subsist."

olden, adj. Old. Used in several set phrases such as *olden times*, which means anything more than two generations back.

pair, n. This word is sometimes used to mean a considerable number; I have several times heard a necklace described as a *pair o' beads*. Piper[24] has reported the same usage from rural Iowa.

pea-rifle, n. A muzzle-loading rifle of small caliber.

pindlin', adj. Weak, puny. "Them Injun young-uns is all kinder *pindlin'*, 'pears like."

piedy, adj. Spotted. "I shore caint abide thet 'ar *piedy* hoss." Taylor[25] spells the word pieded, but I do not hear the final consonant.

pum-granny, or *plum-granny*, n. A small, yellow, gourd-like fruit, occasionally used as food. It is said that the name is somehow derived from pomegranate, which the hillman knows chiefly from the references in Scripture.

poot! inter. A common exclamation of disgust. Also used as a noun—"She aint wuth a *poot!*"

possum-grapes, n. A small variety of wild grapes.

principally, adv. Usually, generally. "Yarbs *princip'ly* aint no good 'thout a leetle whiskey."

pukes, n. Nausea, vomiting. "Th' baby hed th' *pukes* suthin turrible."

read after, v. phr. To read, or to read about. "My boy he *reads atter* this hyar Bryan." The phrase *studies atter* is used in the same fashion.

reapin'-hook, n. Sickle.

ridiculous, adj. and adv. Shocking, outrageous. "Hit was plum *ridic'lus* how thet feller kilt his pappy."

rifle-gun, n. A muzzle-loading rifle. In the larger calibers these weapons are often called human-rifles, while those of smaller bore are known as squirrel-rifles or pea-rifles.

rue back, v. phr. To trade back. "We done swapped fa'r an' squa'r, an' now Ed he's a-tryin' t' *rue back* on me."

sashay, *sashiate*, v. To move briskly about. Used chiefly in calling country dances. Doubtless derived from the French *chassé*. Carr[26] says that *sashay around* means "to trifle, to cut up" in Arkansas, but I am not familiar with this connotation. Two other dance calls—*allemand* and *allemandy-goodelum*—are also probably of French origin.

saw gourds, v. To snore loudly.

[24] Piper, Edwin Ford. A Survival, *American Speech*, May, 1926, p. 442.

[25] Taylor, Jay L. B. Snake County Talk, *Dialect Notes*, Vol. V, Part 6, 1923, p. 217.

[26] Carr, Joseph William. Words from Northwest Arkansas, *Dialect Notes*, Vol. III, Part 2, p. 154.

science, adj. Skillful, proficient, expert. "Jim shore is a plum *science* fiddler." Sometimes a final *d* or *t* is pronounced, and the word becomes *scienced.*

scriber, n. Writer. "Hé's a right good *scriber*" means that his *hand-write* is easily legible.

set in, v. phr. Begins. This phrase is used in a peculiar sense with reference to spatial measurements. "Jim's farm *sets in* right hyar an' runs plum t' the creek." A farmer sometimes *sets in* to pulling weeds, or cutting wood, or clearing land, and so on.

set up, v. To woo, to court. "Jake he's *a-settin' up* t' a gal over on Hawg Mountain." Taylor[27] omits the adverb, and would have his rustic swain *a-settin' a gal,* but I have not heard it so used.

several, adj. A large number. When the hillman says "they's *sever'l* fox in them 'ar bluffs," he does not mean three foxes, or four, or ten, but a great many. The phrase *a good few* is sometimes used in the same sense.

shoot, n. A person nearly mature. "Polly's a-gittin' t' be a right smart *shoot* of a gal." This word also substitutes for the noun *shot,* as in the sentence: "I heerd th' *shoot,* but I never seen nobody a-runnin'."

shootin'-fixin's, n, Firearms. Heard only occasionally. Moffat[28] found this term common in Tennessee.

slaunchways, adv. Slanting.

slump, n. A large, fleshy, untidy, person.

smidgin, n. A very small quantity. "Thet 'ar preacher-man haint got nary *smidgin* o' sense."

sorrow, adj. Sorry. "I'm right *sorrow* I caint holler no louder." Taylor[29] insists that this word is only "the written form of sorry," but I cannot agree with him. A native who came to play my victrola at Pineville, Missouri, always referred to a certain ancient foxtrot as "Who's Sorrow Now," although he was quite able to read the s-o-r-r-y on the record. Most mountain men use sorry as an adjective meaning inferior—"thet shore is a *sorry* meal o' vittles." The noun sorrow is not used in ordinary Ozark conversation at all.

spew, v. To scatter or spread. "Th' wind blowed th' line down, an' *spewed* Maw's clo'es all over th' berry-patch."

spit, n. Exact likeness. "He's th' *spit 'n' image* o' his ol' pappy." I have never been able to decide whether this expression is *spit and image* or *spitting image*—comparable perhaps to *speaking likeness.*

squirrel-turner, n. An expert with the small caliber rifle used in squirrel shooting.

[27] Taylor, Jay L. B. Snake County Talk, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. V, Part 6, 1923, p. 220.

[28] Moffat, Adelene. The Mountaineers of Middle Tennessee, *Journal of American Folk-Lore,* Vol. IV, 1891, p. 316.

[29] Taylor, Jay L. B. Snake County Talk, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. V, Part 6, 1923, p. 221.

stay more, v. phr. This is a polite expression used when a guest is preparing to depart. "Don't be drug off, Doc! *Stay more!*"

stout, adj. In good health; never used to mean corpulent or obese. "Them *stout* gals is allus kinder skinny-like."

strut, v. To distend. "Thet feller's eye-ball war *strutted* plum to a bladder."

sulter, v. To smother, to suffocate. "I mighty nigh *sultered* down in thet 'ar holler."

surround, v. To go around, to detour. "I *surrounded* th' house an' snuk in back o' th' barn."

susy, adj. Countrified or uncouth. Usually applied to a woman whose manner or clothing is inferior.

sweet-root, n. The tips of seedling hickory roots, often eaten by children.

swoggle, v. To dip or stir. "*Swoggle* yer bread in them sogrums oncet!"

thicker than Hammons in hell, adv. phr. Very abundant. Doubtless a survival from some forgotten feud. *Thicker than fiddlers in hell* is also heard occasionally.

thistle-bird, n. The goldfinch, a small yellow bird which feeds upon the seeds of thistles.

thousands, adv. A large size or amount rather than a large number. "Them britches is *thousands* big, but they aint noways long 'nuff."

tooth-brush, n. A chewed twig used in dipping snuff.

tooth-jumper, n. A mountain dentist of the old school, who extracts teeth by means of a mallet and a slender steel punch.

trollop, n. A restless woman; a gadabout. Sometimes used as a verb: "I shore wouldn't let no gal o' mine go *a-trollopin'* 'round' that-a-way."

use, v. To frequent, to loiter. "You-all better gin up *a-usin'* 'roun' my still-house!"

wad, v. To embarrass. "Thet 'ar joke shore *wadded* Maw."

wash-off, n. A bath. When one remembers that the hillman bathes in a tin wash-tub, in which he stands upright and rubs his body with a wet cloth, the term seems singularly appropriate. The ordinary laving of the hands and face is known as *washing up.*

weather, v. To storm. " 'Pears like hits a-goin' t' *weather* some t'night."

ween, v. To exhibit fear, to weaken. "Hank he talks mighty brash, but he'll mostly *ween* when th' shootin' sets in."

weddiners, n. Members of a wedding party. "I heerd th' *weddiners* a-whoopin' an' a-hollerin' 'long bout sun-up."

whenever, adv. When. "*Whenever* I was a gal, folks kep' ther' clo'es on, an' th' men-folks allus wore th' britches." Sometimes a final *n* is added, and the word sounds like *whenever'n.*

wisht, v. Wish. "I *wisht* I was out'n this hyar jail-house." Weeks[30] hears this as *wished,* and remarks that "it is a true present tense." It seems to me, however, more probably a contraction of "I wish that."

[30] Weeks, R. L. Notes from Missouri, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. I, 1896, p. 242.

wood-hen, n. The great pileated woodpecker, still common in some isolated parts of the Ozarks.

wordly, adj. Sophisticated, cultured, irreligious. "He was a right *worldly-lookin'* feller."

yank, n. A little creeping blue-backed bird called the nuthatch.

yarm, v. To thrust into, to insert. Johnson[31] refers to a native who *yarmed* a load into his gun.

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Pineville, Mo.

[31] Johnson, Sidney E. *The Ozarkian,* Joplin, Mo., July, 1926, p. 12.

PLEASE NOTE

that the editors skipped pp. 407-414 in the pagination of Volume V. There is no material missing in this reprint edition. The original pagination has not been changed in order to avoid confusion in bibliographic references etc.

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DIALECT NOTES

Volume V, Part X, 1927

SHERWOOD'S PROVINCIALISMS.

Reverend Adiel Sherwood (1791-1879) was born in New York and educated in New England. About 1820 his poor health caused him to move to Georgia, where in 1826 he began to collect material for a gazetteer of that state. The first edition of his *Gazetteer of the State of Georgia* appeared in 1827 and contained, among other things, a short list of provincialisms.

In 1829, when Sherwood brought out his second edition of the gazetteer, he omitted altogether the provincialisms, but in 1837 he included a much longer list of such expressions in the third and last edition of the gazetteer.

Sherwood prefaced his 1827 list with an explanatory paragraph:

Provincialisms. The following list is not inserted because we are the only people who coin and use words without regard to accuracy; but with the hope that seeing them printed, we shall forbear to drag them into service. It will be seen by reference that many of our provincialisms are borrowed from England. There is no section of country but has more or less of them.

This long, or *that long,* for so long.
This far, for so far.
Tote, for carry, bear.
Raised, for brought up, educated.
Smart chance, for good deal, large quantity, large company, great number.
Reckon, for presume, or suppose.
Disremember, for forget, want of recollection.
Monstrous, for very, as monstrous great.
Mighty, for very, as mighty well, &c.
Proud, for glad, as I should be proud to see you.
May be he cant, for an affirmation that one can do, or perform a thing.
Whole heap, for many, several, much, large congregation.
Misery, for pain, as misery in my head.
Done said it, for has said it.
Done did it, for has performed, or done it.
Pleasantry, for pleasure.
Et, for ate.
Fauch, for fetch, or bring.
Holpe, or help.
Beast or *crittur,* for horse.
Go by, for call, or stop at.
Truck, for medicine.
Truck, for produce, cloth, or almost anything.
Like I do, for as I do.
Onct, for once.

Scrouge, for crowd.
Tight scrouging, for difficult.
Right good, for very good.
Get shut of, for get rid of
Mout, for might.
Pertend up, for better, more cheerful.
Wrench, for rinse.

—Erroneous Pronunciations—
Maracle, for miracle.
Presbattery, for Presbytery.
Impotent, for important.
Jemes, for James.
Tower, for tour, pr. toor.
Alabam, for Alabama.
Kaintuc, for Kentucky.
Marci, for mercy.
Sarment, for sermon.
Textes, for texts.
Oxens, for oxen.
Ruff, for roof.
Starrs, for stairs.
Bar, for bear.
Stare, for star.
Drownded, for drowned.

In his third edition Sherwood retained his introductory paragraph and grouped all the expressions together, giving them some sort of alphabetic arrangement. In both the earlier and later treatments of provincialisms there are evident typographical errors. Immediately following his introductory paragraph on page 69 of the 1837 edition the following list appears:

Arter, for after.
Ager, for ague.
Arrant, for errand
Ary, for either.
Aint, for is not, and am not.
Axd, for asked.
Aig, for egg.
Abul, for able.
Appeerunce, for appearance.
Alabam, for Alabama.
Assign, for sign; *assign* is to convey away property; *sign* is merely to write the name.
Blotch, for blot—a stain or spot. There is the word blotch; but it signifies a pustle, or spot on the skin.
Blather, for bladder.
Brickly, for brittle.
Beneth, for beneath.
Bess, for best.
Bar, for bear, a beast.
Bresh, for brush.
Becase, for because.
Breethering, for brethren.
Bornd, for born; this is sometimes written so in the lists of births in Bibles.
Board, for a horse for feeding or keeping.
Bodaciously, wholly.
Beyant, for beyond.
Babtises, for Baptists.
Beast, or *critture*, for horse.
Choosed, for chose.
Crap it, for crop it.
Cotch'd, for caught.
Com'd, for came.
Chunck, for chump.
Cheer, for chair.
Chimbly, for chimney.
Crap, for crop.
Christiun, christian.
Capting, for captain.
Charrackter, character.
Convenunt, convenient.
Crossway, causeway.
Charot, chariot.
Carry a horse to water, instead of lead or ride him to water.

Crazy, for sickly or weakly.
Dare, for there.
Dairter, for daughter.
Disremember, for misremember.
Drownded, for drowned.
Digging, dear or costly—*i. e.* a mighty *digging* price.
Derange, disarrange.
Difficulted, perplexed.
Don did it, for has done it.
Done said, for has said.
Determd, determined.
Discurse, for discuss.
Do dont, do not.
Drap, for drop.
Done said it, for has said it.
Done did it, for has performed, or done it.
Et, for ate.
Erro, error.
Expeerunce, experience.
Eend, for end.
Fare, for far.
Flustrate, frustrate.
Feller, for fellow.
Fermiliar, familiar.
Fout, for fought.
Flitters, for fritters.
Forks of Road, fork.
Febuary, February.
Frozed and *freezed,* for frozen.
Fight, for chastise; equals *fight,* but a master *chastises* his servant.
Fix, for fit or prepare. To *fix* is to fasten: to *fit* is to make ready, &c.
Fix, for situation or condition—*bad fix.*
Fauch, for fetch, or bring.
Gim me, for give me.
Guardeen, guardian.
Guzzle, for gurgle.
Garding, garden.
Gal, for girl.
Great big, large.
—This word is used variously—*great* christian, for pious man; *great* horse is applied to a small pony—meaning a horse of good qualities and bottom; *great* plantation, a fertile one.
Grievyous, grievous.
Gone with, become of—what is *gone with it* or with him, for become of it or him.
Go by, for call, or stop at.
Get shet of, for get rid of.
Hit, for it.
Haint, for have not.
Hadn't ought, for ought not.
His'n, for his.
Handkercher, handkerchief.
Howsomever, however.
Hope, help.
—The obsolete verb *holp* was in use 200 years ago.
Harricane, hurricane.
Hime, for hymn.
Holt, for hold.
Hath, for hearth.
Helt, for held.
Handwrite, handwriting.
Heap, for much or many: A *heap* of birds flying, or deer running, seems odd. *Heap* of speeches: as the words drop from the speaker, seems also improper. A *heap,* of logs or bushes, is correct.
Heavun, for heaven.
Hyether, for hither.
Hender, for hinder.
Hurted, for hurt.
Hen-aig, for hen's egg.
Holpe, for help.
Intrust, for interest.
Ingon, for onion.
Illdisposed, for indisposed.
Ignomeenious, for ignominious.
Imposture, for impostor.
I is and you is, for I am and you are.
Illconvenient, inconvenient.
Impotent, for important.
Inimy, for enemy.
Jemes, James.

Jest, for just.
Jine, for join.
Jesu's love, Jesus' love. We do not say Mose's, nor should we say Jesu's.
Knowed, for knew.
Kiver, for cover.
Keerless, for careless.
Kaintuc, for Kentucky.
Like I do, for as I do; *like* can never be used before a nominative; *like me* or *him* is proper.
Loss, for lose; he *loss* it, for loses it or lost it.
Learn, for teach; I will *learn you* is incorrect; the pupil *learns*—The teacher *teaches* his pupil, but does not *learn* him.
Lather, for ladder.
Lay, for lie; do you *lay* down to rest, for do you *lie down.*
Mighty big, for very big; mighty is an adjective, and so is big—but the design of the speaker is not to use two adjectives, but to express some quality in regard to the adjective with an adverb; *very* is an adverb, and expresses some circumstances in regard to big.
Mounting, for mountain.
Mountaneous, for mountanous.
Met up with, for overtook.
Mout, might.
Marchant, for merchant.
Massissippi, for Mississippi.
Mushmillion, for muskmelon.
Maracle and *muracle,* for miracle.
Monstrous, for very, as monstrous great.
Mighty, for very, as mighty well, &c.
May be he cant, for an affirmation that one can do, or perform a thing.
Misery, for pain, as misery in my head.
Mout, for might.
Marci, for mercy.
Norard, northward
Nary one, neither.
Overseed, for took oversight.
Oxens, oxen.
Obsarver, for observer.
Obedunce, obedience.
Overplush, overplus.
One'st, for once.
Opinuated, conceited.
Pillow, for pillar.
Pillar, for pillow.
Pervision, provision.
Paculiar, peculiar.
Perserves, for preserves.
Prasbattery, for Presbytery.
Perdigious, for prodigious.
Priminary, for predicament.
Perpeetual, for perpetual.
Prevade, for pervade.
Pertition, petition.
Power, for much or many, *i. e.* he has read *a power*—he has a *power* of corn or negroes—he can lift a *power.*
Pardner, for partner. If it *was please God,* for if it please God.
Pree, for prey, (pr'pray) spoil.
Plunder, for goods, effects or booty.
Proud, for glad, as I should be proud to see you.
Pleasantry, for pleasure.
Pertend up, for better, more cheerful.
Queshton, for question.
Ramsack, for ransack.
Rench, for rinse.
Reech, for reach.
Resk, or risk.
Rock, for stone;—he threw a *rock* at me; *stone* is the proper word. There are rocks, stones, and pebbles: the first are large and unmanagable by the hand; the second, the stones, are smaller and can be thrown. David slung a *stone* at Goliath; but it would have required Sampson to have cast a *rock.*

Reverent, for strong;—*reverent whisky, i. e.* not diluted.

Raised, for brought up;—for I was *raised* in such a county, should be brought up or educated. We raise horses, cattle and swine; but not human beings.

Right good, for very good.

Rared, for reared;—he was *rared,* or he *rared; Reared* is the proper word—to educate, or elevate, is the meaning.

Ruff, for roof.

Scoripin, scorpion.

Skeersely, scarcely.

Streetch, for stretch.

Sperit, for spirit.

Seed, saw.

Set, sit.

Set, sat;—hen's *set.* You *set* an arm, a post, or a chair; but he *sits* to-day or sat yesterday.

Squinch, for quench.

Scace, for scarce.

Slim, for small.

Stars, for stairs.

Sarment, for sermon.

Scrouge, for crowd.

Squash, for quash.

Saft, for soft.

Sacer, for saucer.

Stairs, for stars.

Sartin, for certain.

Strot, for strut.

Sparrow-Grass, for asparagus.

Scriptorean, scripturist.

Smart chance, for good deal, large quantity, large company, great number.

Severals, for several.

Teached, for taught.

Tuther, other.

Tower, for tour—(pronounced *toor*).

Tater, for potato.

Tollible, tolerable;—*sorter tollible,* for tolerably well.

This year, or *this 'ere,* for this.

Two times, twice.

Two foot, two feet.

Two mile, for two miles.

Tuck, for took.

Thurst, for thrust;—he *thurst* his hand into his bosom.

Terro, for terror.

Tight scrouging, for difficult.

Twell, for till;—twell night—twell next week.

Twis't, for twice.

Them are, for those.

Tex and *texes,* for text and texts.

Tremendeous, for tremendous.

Tribunial, for tribunal.

This twenty years, for these twenty years.

Tote, for carry or bear; this is from the Latin *tollit*—he carries. It became *tolt* in English—and then as *holpe* fell to hope, so has *tolt* to tote. *Tolt* is frequently found in old English books.

This long, or *that long,* for so long.

This far, for so far.

Truck, for medicine.

Truck, for produce, cloth, or almost anything.

Unly, for only.

Um, for them.

Umberillo, for umbrella.

Ultimate, for terminate.

Used, for feed;—the sheep *used* in that field.

Use-to-could, for could formerly;—I *used-to-could* do it.

Varment, for vermin.

Villion, villain.

Water-million, for water-mellon.

Wary, weary. *Wensday,* Wednesday.

Weeky-day, week day.

While, for till; *i. e.* stay *while* I come, for stay *till* I come.

Went, for have gone;—you ought not to have *went* is improper; it should be have *gone.*

Wur, for were.
Whole heap, for many, several, much, large congregation.
Wrench, for rinse.
Yaller, for yellow.
Yearly, for early;—come right *yearly,* &c., for come soon or early.
Yont, for yonder;—as yonder;—as *yont* house.
Yearb, for herb.
Year, for here;—come right *year,* for come here.

Many of the forms listed by Sherwood represent pronunciations that varied more or less from the standards of that day. It is interesting to note how Sherwood was pronouncing, or perhaps thought he was pronouncing, unstressed letters, usually vowels in such words as *Christian, convenient, familiar, important.*

A large number of the indicated pronunciations fall into certain definite groups and exhibit well recognized phonetic tendencies.

(a) The persistency of *ar,* especially in dialect use, is shown in such words as *arrant, marchant, marci, obsarver,* etc.

(b) The tendency to confuse final *n* and *ng* is seen in *capting,* and *garding.*

(c) The letter *r* often disappears, frequently before *s* or *sh,* and sometimes in other positions. The forms *Febuary* and *terro* illustrate this tendency. Not infrequently *r* insists on coming into words where it has no place, *discurse* for 'discuss' being an instance of this. Again, *r* sometimes exchanges position with a neighboring vowel, as shown by *thurst* for 'thrust.'

(d) An *a* for an *o* is a very common substitution, especially in colloquial speech. Such forms as *crap, drap, saft,* are illustrations.

(e) The tendency to lower the diphthong *oi* in pronunciation accounts for such forms as *pint, bile,* and, in Sherwood's list, *jine.*

Such forms as *hime, imposture, lather, maracle, rech, scace, thurst, tower,* are indicative of how old pronunciations persisted longer in America than in England.

The following expressions in Sherwood's list are typical Americanisms: *digging, fix, great big, misery, nary, overseed, plunder, power, reverent, rock, smart chance, tote, truck.*

The NED citations of the following expressions are later than

Sherwood's record of them: *fix, forks of road, gal, reverent, smart chance.*

Sherwood, being a minister, should not have found fault with the expression, "to carry a horse to water," for II Kings 9, 2, King James version, reads,

> And when thou comest thither, look out there Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren, and carry him to an inner chamber.

The etymology of *tote* which Sherwood gives is interesting, though no doubt faulty. He had evidently seen the legal term *tolt*, and failed to remember that it is a noun. No relationship between *tolt* and *tote* has so far been established.

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DUNGLISON'S GLOSSARY (1829-1830).

Robley Dunglison (1798-1869) had observed enough about American speech to compile his glossary within five years after immigrating to this country. After an education in England, his native country, and in Germany, he was called by Jefferson in 1824 to be the first holder of the chair of medicine in the University of Virginia. He later went to the University of Maryland, and after 1836 he helped bring Jefferson College, Philadelphia, to its leading position in medicine. His books on medicine, particularly the *Dictionary of Medical Science,* had a phenomenal sale. He wrote on almost any conceivable subject, and he has often been called "by far the most voluminous and erudite author of his time in this country."

Philology was one of his many interests. His sport was that of many a later man: the proving that many so-called Americanisms are distinctly of British origin. After Pickering's volume, Americanisms made a provocative subject for discussion; a language consciousness was developing. Dunglison's introduction reflects an attitude toward Noah Webster's important work, just published: "We regret, in some respects, that we are compelled to undertake this enumeration without having the Herculean production of Mr. Noah Webster before us, although from what we have seen of it, we should, probably, have been compelled to dissent largely from him, especially in the Etymological department."

The *Virginia Literary Museum and Journal of Belles Lettres, Arts, &c.,* in which this glossary appeared, was a weekly magazine edited by some of the professors at the University of Virginia for almost a year in 1829-1830. It must have had a limited circulation, because the *Union List of Serials* records only five copies among its subscribers. The articles, on a wide range of subjects, were mostly unsigned except by pseudonymous initials, for the glossary by *Wy.* Professor A. G. Kennedy, in his *Bibliography of Writings on the English Language,* translates this into Robley Dunglison.

The glossary appeared in three installments of volume one: December 16, 1829 (pp. 417-420); December 30, 1829 (pp. 457-460); and January 6, 1830 (pp. 479-480). Three later install-

ments, of less interest, dealt with *reputed* Americanisms. Dunglison thus summed up his purpose: "In the above enumeration we have designedly omitted the immense catalogue of words, contained in Pickering's vocabulary, which are still used in England, in the Provinces or are employed in good society. We have confined ourselves chiefly, as we proposed, to those which have either been coined here, or are employed in a new signification." I have tampered with nothing except the paragraphing. The asterisks are Dunglison's, standing for words not in Pickering.

To *admire*—"to like much, to be very fond of." In this sense the word is often used in England: as "I admire it much"; but it is not employed as in New England,—in the sentence "I should *admire* to go to Boston."

To *advocate*—"to support." This word, by critics, who were themselves unacquainted with their own language, has been declared an Americanism. It is no such thing. Milton used it in the same sense. Yet the Encyclopædia Americana seems desirous to claim it, and remarks, that it is doubtful whether Milton so used it. The author of the article on Americanisms, in that work, cannot have referred to the passage in Milton, or he would have entertained no doubt of the matter:—"Whether this reflect not with a contumely upon the parliament itself, which thought this petition worthy not only of receiving, but of voting to a commitment after it had been *advocated* and moved for by some honorable and learned gentlemen &c.":—*Animadversions* § 1. Burke also employed it: not at first hand. It came ready made and sanctioned to him. In Scotland it has a restricted meaning, as in the following sentence. "For men seldom *advocate* against Satan's works."—*Ruth. Letters.* Here it signifies, "to plead";—although the Scotch use it in the sense, "to support"—likewise.

**Ambition*—"spite"—a *Virginianism.* "He brought the action against me, for *ambition.*"

Applicant—"a diligent student"—not uncommon.

Appreciate—"to rise in value."

Association—"a convention of clergymen"—*New England.* From this word comes the adjective *associational.* The tendency to form adjectives from substantives and verbs from substantives is universal. Letters, in England, are sent by the *post;* and hence "to *post* a letter" has been introduced; or, as we say, by like derivation, "to mail it." To *turnpike* a road is now very common. Originally when tolls were taken, a turnpike was placed upon the footpath; the road subsequently became designated a *turnpike* and afterwards the word was made into a verb. A short time ago, we saw a tavern, recommended in a printed handbill as the most *accommodational* on the road; and in Virginia, we hear of a man intending to "*bacon* his pork."

Backwoodsman. A new term arising out of the circumstances of the country.

Balance. "The remainder of any thing"—common over the country. "Won't you spend the *balance* of the evening with me?" In some places, *shank* is quaintly used with the same signification.

**Belting* in Virginia—the same as girdling. See "To *girdle.*"

Belittle. Not an Americanism, but an individualism.

Bestowment. "The act of conferring"—a barbarism.

**Blizzard.* "A violent blow"—perhaps from *Blitz,* [*Germ.*] lightning. *Kentucky.*

**Block.* "A row of buildings." "He lives in the same *block* with me." *Common.*

Boatable. "Navigable with boats."—a useful word.

Boating. "Conveying by boats."—not in use in England, but as good a word as *carting* or *ploughing*—we hear also of *wagoning.*

Brash. "Brittle." In this sense the word is American. But it is not difficult to see how it originated. *Brash,* in the North of England, signifies "Twigs or Brush"—slender, fragile branches; and hence it has been used adjectively in the sense of brittle. *New England.*

Bread stuff. "Bread—corn, meal, bread."

To *bridge.* "To make a *bridge*"—an instance of the change alluded to, under *Association. North.*

Brief. Is a *North of Englandism*—as "the wind is brief"—that is, is prevalent or strong. A traveller, hearing the above expression in Virginia, inquired of the driver what the word meant. It meant, he replied, "that the wind was a *sort a peart.*"

**Bug.* This, in England, is used merely for the bed-bug; except in one or two cases where it has a distinctive epithet—as may-bug, lady-bug &c. In this country it is applied to almost every insect that flies, but by others is restricted to the Coleoptera.

**Case.* Tobacco is said "*to be in case*" when soft and pliant; or in condition to be packed away in casks without loss. *Southern States.*

*To *catch up.* "To overtake"—Kentucky.

**Cache.* A term used in the western country, for a hole dug in the ground for the purpose of preserving and concealing such provisions and commodities, as it may be inconvenient for the travellers to carry with them. This is from the French, *cacher,* to conceal.

To *calculate*—"to expect"—as "I *calculate* to leave town tomorrow." In Virginia—I *reckon* is used in this sense.

Caucus. "A political, preparatory meeting"—derivation not known. Pickering thinks it is from *Caulker;* these meetings having been first held in a part of Boston where all the ship-business was carried on.

**Cavault* or *Cavort.* Ranting, highflying.—*West.*

**Chance.* A supply, a quantity—"he lost a right smart *chance* of blood"—vulgarism of the *Southern States.*

Cent. The coin—the *hundredth* part of a dollar.

Centrality. "The quality of being central." *Fr.* a good word.

Checkers or *chequers.* "*Draughts.*" The game. A term taken from the chequered state of the board. *New England.*

Church, member of the. "A professor of religion"—both of these phrases are American and technical—"one who has publicly declared his assent to the creed of any church." *Universal.*

Clever. "*Good disposition.*" "He is a *clever* fellow but of a week understanding." The English clever is never applied except to qualities of the head. *New England.*

Clothier. "A fuller or walker." *New England.* In England it is a "seller of cloth."

*To *cohogle.* "To bamboozle." *Kentucky.*

**Cob.* "The spike of an ear of corn"—a "corn *cob*"—from German *Kopf*—head, and A. Saxon, *cop.* *Universal.*

To *concur.* "To assent to." "The bill will not be concurred by the senate." *Northern States.*

To *conduct.* Used in New England without the pronoun. "He conducts well." Instead of "he conducts himself well."

Congress. Is used by us without the article. English writers generally say "the *Congress*" although they use Parliament without the article. *Congressional* naturally proceeds from the other; and both, arising from the new state of the country are proper.

**Congregational, Congregationalism &c.* are technical, and relate to a church government by consent and election. *Pickering.*

Considerable. As "he is *considerable* of a physician." *New England.*

**Connections.* "*Relations* by marriage," in contradistinction to those by blood. As "he is a *connection* of mine." *Relations,* in England, includes all.

Consociation and *consociational* are technical—and relate to "a convention of pastors and messengers of churches. *Webster.*

To *convene.* "To be fit for, or convenient"—as "this road will convene the public, or be convenient for the public." *New England.*

To *cork.* "To shoe a horse with points—or with frost nails." Perhaps from this word, which is old English, comes the *cawker,* quasi *corker,* placed under the wooden shoes of the *Cumbrians.* (See *Dialects of Cumberland,* in *Museum* p. 258.)

Corn. "Indian corn." In England it comprises all the Cerealia, used for bread; hence, "*corn* laws"—*corn* market." When applied to the food of the horse in England it means oats singly. *Corn blades*—the leaves of Indian corn. *Southern States.*

**Coudeript.* Thrown into fits. Kentucky.

County. Mr. Pickering states that this word is sometimes used along with shire; as the county of Hampshire. County and shire mean the same thing. The Pleonasm should be avoided.

Creature. Much employed in New England for horses, oxen &c.; this extensive signification is probably obtained from Ireland. In Virginia, the word is often restricted to the horse. "I've got no *creature* to ride."

Creek. "A small river." *Southern and middle states.* In New England it has the correct English signification; a part of a sea, lake or river running into the land. Mr. Pickering erroneously limits it to the *sea.*

**Dedodgement.* "Exit."—Kentucky.

To *depreciate.* "To fall in value"; as "corn depreciates fast"; never used as a neuter verb in England.

To *derange.* "To disarrange." We notice this, only to exhibit the absurdity of pseudo critics. The *British Critic* objected to this word in Washington's official letters, after it had actually been used in a previous volume of the very same review. Almost every remark on Americanisms, in that presuming publication, exhibits, that the reviewer was grossly ignorant of his own tongue.

Desk. Sometimes used in New England for the pulpit. In England, there are, in the Episcopalian churches, a reading desk and a pulpit. This may have given rise to the use of the word here.

Dime. From French, *Dime,* the tenth part—a silver coin the value of ten cents.

Disremember. A totally unnecessary word, used in the *Southern States* for "to forget; not remember."

*To *district.* To lay off into districts.

To *doom.* "To tax at discretion." *New England.*

Doomage. Is, hence a fine or penalty.

**Done.* A prevalent vulgarism in the *Southern states;* as "*done gone,*" "what have you *done* do?" Only heard amongst the lowest classes; probably obtained from Ireland.

Dutiable. Subject to duties; a very intelligible compound.

Eagle. A gold coin, value ten dollars.

Educational. "Pertaining to education"—like *accommodational &c.*

**Elegant.* This word, like handsome, is employed hyperbolically in the south. We hear of "an *elegant* beef &c."

Equally as. For "equally"—a pleonasm as "equally as well."

**Expect.* "Apprehend"—as "I *expect* you left Richmond yesterday."

**Expose.* For "exposé"—an exposition. This is very common; and has arisen from the adoption of the word from the French, without accenting the final e.

Evening. "After dinner." *Southern States.*

Federalist. A new denomination, arising from the political circumstances of the United States.

Fisk or *Fisc.* "The treasury." This is an unpleasant word; although it has been recommended on the high authority of M. Duponceau, and exists in the German and French; both of which had the word from the Latin *fiscus.* It sounds so like fist, as at times, to convey a ludicrous idea to the hearer. "To draw money from the public *fisk.*" The word is not needed.

*To *fix.* "To arrange, to prepare." As "I'm *fixing* to go." There is, also, a substantive, "fix"—as I'm not in a good *fix,*" i. e. I am not prepared. *Southern States.*

**Flunkt*—"overcome, outdone." *Kentucky.*

**Fodder,* in many of the states, means the blades of corn, stacked up for use. In England it is applied to any kind of dry food, stored up for cattle against winter.

To *fort in.* Another case of the substantive being converted into a verb. *Marshall.*

To *fourfold.* "To assess in a fourfold ratio." *Connecticut.* A similar instance.

To *girdle.* "To make a circular incision through the bark of trees and leave them to die." (*See Belting.*)

**Givy.* "Muggy." The weather is said to be *givy,* when there is much moisture in the atmosphere. *South.*

**Good.* "Well." A vulgarism in the southern states. As "I can't fix it *good.*"

Gouging. This word has been borrowed from the carpenter's shop. It is taken from the old English word, employed by old Ben. "To *gouge,*" i. e. to scoup out as with a gouge or chisel.

> . . . . . "by googing of 'em out
> Just to the size of my bottles, and not slicing."
> *Devil is an Ass.*

Grade. "Degree, order." This word is now in common use. We see no objection to it. It has honorable ancestry both in the Teutonic and Romanic stocks.

Happifying. "Making happy." A barbarous term of hybrid origin—half Latin and half English. It is occasionally heard from the pulpit.

**Handsome.* Is more extensively used in this country than in England. There they would rarely or never speak of a "*handsome* garden"; although the term is now more extensively applied there than formerly.

**Heap.* Much—a great quantity or number. Southern and western *States.* As "it is a *heap* colder to-day." A *heap* of pains, a *heap* of dollars. It corresponds with the word *lots* as it was commonly used in England, some years ago.

Help. "A servant." *New England.* Generally a "female servant."

Hominy or *hommony.* "Food made of Indian corn, broken coarsely and bruised." *General.*

**Honeyfuggle.* "To quiz, to cozen." *Kentucky.*

**Hoppergrass.* This word is often used in the south for *grasshopper. A vulgarism.*

**Hornswoggle.* "To embarrass irretrievably." *Kentucky.*

Illy. This adverb cannot, perhaps, be said to be of American origin; it has, however, been employed by so few of the older English writers; and is now never used in England, that we mention it here. *Ill* is equally an adverb and adjective; and hence, *illy,* to say the least of it, is unnecessary.

To *improve.* "To occupy, make use of, employ"—as to "*improve* as a tavern"—"to *improve* a schoolmaster"—"to *improve* their children in labour &c." *New England.*

Improvement, of a sermon, the conclusion. *New England.*

In for *Into,* and *vice versa.* This is said to be common in New York and Pennsylvania. "We get *in* the stage," and have the rheumatism *into* our knees. *Coleman.* "When did you come *in* town?" *Pennsylvania.*

Insularity. "The situation or state of an island." A convenient word and one that has been coined from the Latin, in England as well as this country.

Interval-land, or *Interval.* "Bottomland." *New England.*

Involvement for "involvedness." Used by Mr. Marshall in his *Life of Washington.*

**Join* the church—"to become a member of the church." See *church, member of the.*

To *keep.* "To stay at the house of any person." "Where do you *keep?*" *New England.*

Lecture day. "A holiday"—from the custom of excusing boys from going to school on those *week* days when there was a public lecture.

Lay. "Terms or conditions of a bargain, prices, wages";—as "I bought the articles at a good *lay.*"

Lengthy. "Long, lengthened, extended, prolix."

Lick or *salt lick.* "A salt spring; the earth which has been furrowed by the deer and buffalo licking the earth on account of the saline particles with which it is impregnated."

Like, for "*as* or *like as.*" "He carries them *like* I do"—a vulgarism in the *southern* and *western states;* it is also used, as follows, in the south: "I do not feel like eating." *Vulgarism.*

Likely. "Sensible, intelligent, of moral worth." *New England.* The word is, also, frequently employed in the sense of "*good looking*"; as "he is a *likely* fellow." Mr. Pickering quotes a sentence from the *Portfolio,* in which it is asserted, that the word, in the latter sense, is used throughout the British dominions. We believe it to be very rarely so employed, in any part of England. It seems to be obsolete. In Scotland it is used.

> Off likely man that born was in Ingland.
> Be suere and fyr that nycht deit v thousand."
> *Wallace* M. S.

Lister from *List.* One who receives and makes returns of ratable estate." *Connecticut.*

To *locate.* "To place, to reside"—"a number of courts properly *located.*" "Where do you intend *to locate?*" or "where are you located?" The word is used also in the sense of, "to designate a tract by writing or to fix the boundaries of unsettled land." *Webster.*

Location. "The act of designating and bounding land; also "the tract so designated."

Lot. "A field or part of premises." As "keep your cow out of my *lot.*"

*To *lot* or *allot,* (with upon) "to count upon"—as, "I *lot upon* going thither." *New England.*

Lumberer. "A seller of timber." *North.*

**Marooning.* Perhaps from *mare* the sea. It always means a "party to the sea shore." *South Carolina.* Also common in the West Indies.

**Means.* Medicine. *South.*

**Measurably.* In a measure.

Merchant. This word, in England, is applied to a person engaged in traffic with foreign countries. In many parts of the United States, it means a retail dealer, also.

To *missionate.* "To perform the functions of a missionary." It is characterized in Pickering's *Vocabulary* as a low, unauthorized word.

Moccason or *Moggason.* According to Webster, "a shoe of soft leather without a sole, ornamented round the ankle." *Indian.* [In a footnote to the word *leather,* he adds:] Amongst the many idle innovations introduced by Webster in the established orthography of the language, this is one. Why did he not begin at home and strike out the expletive, *h,* from his own christian name?

**Mosey.* "To move off." *Kentucky.*

**Motivity.* "The quality of being influenced by motives"; also, the "power of producing motion." *Dwight.*

**Mollagausauger.* "A stout fellow." *Kentucky.*

Mush. "Food of cornmeal, boiled." *Southern States.*

Musical. "Humorous"—as "he is very *musical.*" *Local,* in *New England.*

Netop. An Indian word for "a friend or crony." *Massachusetts.*

**Nitre.* This word is very improperly used, in many parts, for "the *sweet spirit of nitre,*" instead of for salt-petre.

To *notify.* "To inform." This is an American signification; and, hence, "to *notify* him of it," is common. The real interpretation of the word is "to make known"; and the sentence ought to be "to notify it to him." This error is universal. (See *Museum* p. 12.)

Notions. "Small wares." As "Yankee *notions.*" *New England, Vulgarism.*

Offset. Not uncommonly employed for "*set off.*"

On. As "*on* tomorrow"; a mere expletive. *Common.*

Organize. To "arrange." This word has a restricted sense, being applied to political and other bodies; as, "have you organized?"; i. e. have you arranged?

Over for *under.* "A writer *over* the signature. "This ridiculous and unjustifiable innovation has been already criticized in this Journal. (p. 12.)

To *packet.* "To ply with a packet." This is a local word; originating from the substantive, like many others; as to *cart,* to *wagon* &c.

Pappoose. The Indian name for "a child"; applied to Indian children.

To *Parade.* "To assemble, arrange, exhibit, bring forth." "Come, *parade* your jewels."

Pine-barren. "A forest of pines." *Carolinas.*

**Plunder.* "Luggage, effects." A vulgarism in the *Southern States.* As "your *plunder* (effects) has arrived."

Portage. "A carrying place, by the banks of rivers, round waterfalls or rapids." *North.*

Prairie. "A natural meadow, or a plain naturally destitute of trees." A word introduced from the French.

Prayerful—prayerfully, used by some of the clergy—but not English.

To *predicate.* "To found," as "my proposition was *predicated* on that view." Very commonly used.

Professor of Religion. See Member of the church. We there stated that these words are American. We might have said Scotch likewise.

To *Progress.* "To advance." The verb "to prog'ress" is used by Shakespeare.

Proxies. "Written votes or ballots." *Rhode Island and Connecticut.* Also "the election or election-day." *Prox* is, also, used in Rhode Island for "the ticket or list of candidates at elections."

Publishment of the banns—for "publication." *New England. Local.*

*To *quiddle.* "To busy one's self about trifles." The word is also used as a substantive. *New England.*

*To *quit.* "To leave off"—as "*quit* it, I say!" *Southern States.*

Rackets. "Snow shoes." *New England.*

To *raise.* "To bring up, to cultivate"—as "to *raise* corn." "I was *raised* in Virginia."

Redemptioner. "One who redeems himself by services or whose services are sold to pay certain expences."

*To *reflunk.* "To retreat, to back out." *Western States.*

Renewedly. "Anew, again."

Result. A technical name for "the decision of ecclesiastical councils." *New England.*

To *result.* "To decide or decree as an ecclesiastical council." "The council *resulted* that the parties &c.

**Retiracy.* "Solitude." *Western States.*

Rock for "stone." "He heaved a rock." "He threw a stone"—a refinement.

**Rowdy.* "A low, dirty fellow—a blackguard." *West.*

**Rooster.* "A cock"—a refinement. *Local.*

Rugged. "Robust"—as "*a rugged* child." *New England.*

Run. "A small stream." *Common.*

Samp. "Corn broken coarsely, boiled and mixed with milk." *Indian.*

Sauce. "Every common, esculent vegetable." *New England.*

Sauce marketers. "Farmers who supply the markets with vegetables." *New England.*

Scow. "A large flat bottomed boat." Perhaps from the Hollandish, *Schuyt.*

Season. Weather—as "a good *season* for planting." *South.*

Section. "Part, quarter" &c. as "in this *section* of the country."

Sectional. From section—"local"—as "*sectional,* feeling"; i. e. local feelings.

Shote. "A young hog." This is often considered an Americanism. It is common in the southeast of England and was used generally in Minsheu's time.—"Shots porcos dicunt qui unicum agunt annum."

Slang whanger. "A noisy, talker or newspaper writer."

Sled. "A carriage for heavy articles on the snow." *New England.*

Sleigh. "A snow carriage for the conveyance of light articles." *New England.*

**Sniptious and Ripsniptious.* "Smart, spruce." *South and West.*

**Sockdologer.* "A decisive blow"—one, in the slang language "capable of setting a man a thinking."

**Sparse.* "Thin, settled here and there." *Universal.*

Span. Perhaps from the German *Gespann*—"a pair"—as "a *span* of horses." *New England.*

Spell. "A fit, a period," as a *spell* of sickness. *General.*

Spile. "A spigot."

**Splendid.* This word is used more hyperbolically than in England—as "a *splendid* piece of beef."

Springy. "Active, agile." *New England.*

Squatter. "A person who enters upon new lands and cultivates them without permission of the owners."

To *squiggle.* "To move about like an eel." *New England vulgarism.*

Staging. "Scaffolding"—*General.*

Stalled. A wagon set fast in the road is said to be *stalled.*

Store. "A shop"—this is not used in England: although it is in some of the colonies.

Suability. "Liability to be sued."

**Stud.* "A stallion": "to take the *stud*"—to be obstinate: originally applied to a horse that refuses to go on.

Subscriber—"The undersigned": as "the subscriber informs his friends" &c. (See *Museum* p. 3.)

Succotash. "A mixture of new, soft maize and beans boiled." *Indian.*

To *Systemize.* "To reduce to a system."

**Tartar.* "Tartar Emetic"—an unwarrantable use of the word: *Tartar* means crystals of Tartar—cream of Tartar. The misnomer might be the cause of accidents.

To *Tote.* "To carry, convey, remove, to carry on the back."—This word is common in Massachusetts and in the southern States. If we mistake not, Mr. Webster considers it a word introduced by the negroes. This is improbable. To *Tolle* from Lat. *Tollere* is an old word, signifying to take away, and *Tolt* is an old law term, thus defined by Minsheu. "*Tolt,* tolta, is a writ whereby a cause depending in a court Baron is removed into the county court." We are probably, therefore, indebted to the law for it.

Town. "A district of certain limits; also, the inhabitants or legal voters of a town."—*Webster.—New England.*

Trade. "Doctor's trade": that is "drugs or medicine." The same as *truck. New England.*

**Truck. See Trade.*

Ugly. "Ill tempered, bad," as "he is an ugly fellow," i. e of a bad disposition, wicked. *New England.*

To *Variate.* A word used by the clergy, as "*variate* of thy mercies according to our circumstances." It is not English.

**Vine.* "Any creeping plant." In England it is restricted to the plant that bears the grape.

*To *Whip.* "To beat"—as "my dog can *whip* yours." *Vulgarism. Southern States.*

Of these 193 entries, fifty-six are starred, not in Pickering. Several are in a class that might be called "genuine finds." The word *blizzard,* five years before Davy Crockett's use, definitely establishes the priority of the meaning which Thornton surmised from later quotations, "a violent blow." *Cavort* antedates Thornton; and its variant *cavault,* not recorded until 1874, helps to determine the etymology. Thornton found neither *honeyfuggle* nor *hornswoggle* until 1856 and 1860. This glossary is earlier evidence also for *fix* (as a noun), *mosey, sockdologer,* and *retiracy.* Thornton cites *cohogle* with one quotation of 1855 and in a different meaning. Two instances of enallage, *done* as in the expression "done gone" and *good* for *well,* record the colloquial tendency earlier than the excerpts in Thornton.

Many of the words were just coming into the language. The verb *to district* had appeared the year before in Webster. The adjective or past participle *flunkt* is a forerunner of the college slang use recorded after 1843. The meaning of "picnicking" for *marooning* was still a Southern localism. Other words of short history are *block, chance, expose, plunder, rowdy, rooster,* and *whip.* Some of the words seem never to have become rooted; at least they are not recorded in the dictionaries: *coudeript, dedodgement, givy, mollagausauger,* and *sniptious* or *ripsniptious.* I have not found the meaning of "spite" for *ambition* in any other place. It is to be expected that a glossary which records the fringe of usage should include many words that have proved failures.

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THE JARGON OF THE UNDERWORLD.

First of all they thinke it fit to devise a certaine kind of languag, to the end their cousenings, knaveries, villanies might not be so easily perceived and knowne in places where they come.

SAMUEL ROWLANDS.

The jargon of the underworld embraces the slang of three general classes,—criminals, tramps and prostitutes. But as all classes meet, the cant of one is understood, to a degree, by all. Tramps learn the ways of crime in prison; criminals taking to the road, to avoid detection, pick up the tricks of vagrancy; the pimps and lovers of prostitutes are usually criminals, while these unfortunate women, together with all the misfits and flotsam of society, ultimately gravitate down the ways of vagrancy. Thus the prison becomes the clearing house for all that is dark, the brothel the cesspool for all that is foul, and the road is the common path for failure. Knavery, filth, and despair speak, therefore, the same jargon.

However, this is a sweeping statement which demands certain exceptions. In an age of specialization it is inevitable that crime, too, should specialize and accordingly develop its own vocabulary. This is particularly true of the higher branches of crime. The "kite-flier" and the counterfeiter possess extensive technical vocabularies; and the same, though to a less extent, applies to the smuggler and bootlegger.

Even less does this apply to what one might call the manual professions of crime; that is, those which require a sort of animal intelligence and native talent rather than an acquired education in the colleges of crime. Thus great natural daring plus a jab of heroin and a swig of whisky fit a man for banditry; great villainy and depravity are essential for success in the traffic of whores; the stealth of a cat and the cunning of a fox make an ideal sneak thief; while a certain cleverness with tools makes a good lock picker, safe opener, or automobile thief.

The lowest class of criminal is the yegg, and it is the most homogeneous as regards both its field of crime and its language. The yegg is a tramp criminal, brutal and violent, who travels in small gangs or pushes, now robbing archaic safes in remote country districts, now stealing valuable merchandise from freight

cars, and, when times are dull, preying upon hoboes returning from the lumber camps and harvest fields.

As to the language of the brothel, owing to a pardonable dislike of the obscene and vulgar, only the most general and innocuous words have been selected, for it has a slang which stinks like the Augean stables and many of its words would set fire to asbestos were they written upon it. Nevertheless, the influence of the prostitute upon the criminal and the vagabond is so enormous that the most superficial survey of the jargon of the underworld could not ignore the contributions of venery.

Turning to the cant of the third class, that of the tramps, it may be said that vagabondage, like crime, has its classes and its castes which in a measure affect the homogeneity of its speech. In general there are three classes of tramps; the tramp proper who wanders and never works; the hobo who works and wanders; and the bum who neither wanders nor works.

The tramp should never be confused with the hobo, whom he affects to despise. To begin with, he is better dressed, since he can always select the components for a presentable outfit from the ten or twenty suits of clothes he has begged during the week and the clean shirts which he has stolen from the line; while the hobo has only the dingy, work-stained outfit that he has paid for by his own toil. The tramp, too, is affable and engaging, as urbanity is necessary to success in begging. The hobo, on the other hand, has been so shot at by the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune that he is surly and embittered. Then the tramp takes to the road as to a sort of philosophy which offers the easiest solution to the perplexities of life, while to the hobo the road is an ungodly creed which tyrannical circumstances have forced upon him.

The tramp proper is usually classified according to his mode of travel. The highest class ride inside passenger trains by stealing or counterfeiting hat cheques or by evading the conductor. Others ride outside upon the decks, the blinds, or even underneath upon the rods or gunnels. A lower order rides only freights, and, too old and rheumatic to catch them on the fly, crawls into them when they are lying dead, at night, or else takes to the shoe leather express until too old for even that. This type then becomes a bum, which is the ultimate end of all those

who reach old age, for in the underworld there are only demotions.

The most interesting members of the tramp class are those who exhibit some perversion or other lack of mental balance. Many tramps snare young boys with whom they enter into homosexual relations, forcing the lads to beg for them, to wait upon them, and to perform the most revolting acts. Rarer is the "scenery-stiff" who roams about the country from love of nature, attempting sometimes to write what he believes is poetry. The roadhog has a veritable mania for riding fast trains for long distances, no sooner arriving at his destination than he is off again. Oddest of all, and not uncommon, is the "Jesus-stiff" who attempts to paint signs for an evil and adulterous generation. It is he who, armed with brush and paint, is responsible for decorating fences and box cars with edifying scriptural passages: "God is love," "The wicked shall be damned," "Wine is a mocker."

Perhaps it is the hobo who furnishes the greatest contribution to the tramp's argot. Owing to the multifarious nature of his odd-jobs and the short time he usually spends on each, he enriches the cant with many colourful words of semi-technical nature. As with tramps, there are certain classes which derive their names from their mode of travel; but the degree of uniformity among hoboes is much greater than among tramps. The "bindle-stiff" carries a blanket and a few cooking utensils, camping where the regular tramp is content to flop in some filthy box car or scratch house. The "lizzie-stiff" travels about with his pig and brats in a dilapidated automobile, while the beach comber is a sailor who tramps about, picking up odd jobs where he can, until he is ready once more to exchange the monotony of the road for the monotony of the sea.

The last class is the numerous order of bums. They have graduated downward from all ranks enumerated above, and superannuated, maimed, diseased, and disheartened, they prolong their miserable existence until they finally wander over to meet the old 'boes in the jungle underground. There are, roughly, two sub-classes of bums: those who exhibit some real or feigned infirmity and by begging secure a competence sufficient to exist upon; and those who live upon the swill thrown

out from restaurants, or upon the charity of bread lines and soup fountains. In summer they sleep on park benches, under stairways, and in doorways. When winter comes they are forced to make the rounds of the missions. There they are saved, regularly, night after night, by the professional cow-punchers of the Kingdom of Heaven, for only the saved are allowed the pitiful privilege of sleeping on the floors and in the wretched cellars of the mission when divine services are over.

The ephemeral nature of slang has often been observed, and to this the jargon of the underworld offers no exception. Since the argot was first described by the English beggar books and cony-catching pamphlets of the sixteenth century, not a dozen words have survived. They, it might be interesting to note, are mostly verbs, which, being words of action, seem to have the greatest chance in the linguistic struggle for survival, notwithstanding that the proportion of verbs to nouns is not one in fifteen.

Since the appearance of the Elizabethan beggar books the character of the underworld jargon has quite definitely changed at least three times. The cant recorded by Awdley, Harmon, and Greene abounds with many cumbersome polysyllables such as: *clapperdogeon, ruffmans, hankstelo, fussocks, hodmendods, hummums, jobbernoll, mulligrubs, jockumgage, nigmenog, rantipole, shaberoon, supernaculum, tickrum-juckrum.* These verbal dinosaurs seem to be the fossils of a prehistoric age of language, too clumsy and too ridiculous to endure. In fact, by about the beginning of the nineteenth century the dictionaries of Grose, Badock, and Hotten indicate the appearance of a flash, the words of which were quite as curt as those of the Elizabethans were long: *pam, loo, null, prad, scrag, gaff, gam, snam, narp, verge, smush, rub, pop, nap,* etc.

Crossing the Atlantic, with the advent of great railway development, the jargon took on another aspect. Many vivid and picturesque words came in which made the language ring with new life. *Carry the banner, flicker, grease the track, gut hammer, hurry-buggy, honey dripping, iron house, pearl diver, rag-house, rob the mail, saleslady, stomach robber, soul aviator, scratch house*—all these attest the virility of the cant. Now the terms are again changing, for with the better policing of the railways and the increase of automobile traffic, the tramp is

forsaking the railroad for the highway. What this new slang will be like the next decade probably will show. Already we hear: *dim his lights, hitch-hiking, Ford-marriage.* Other expressions will soon follow.

Obviously the following list cannot be complete. On the other hand it represents, with the exclusion of purely technical slang words of restricted circulation, a much wider vocabulary than any crook, tramp or prostitute ever possessed. For, notwithstanding the attempt to present a universal and homogeneous jargon for the underworld, it must be evident that there are certain by-paths in its dark jungles which are unknown to criminals who walk in others.

All the following words were in current use at the time of compilation at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, in 1927:

ace, n. A dollar bill.

albert, n. A watch chain.

alkee-stiff, n. One who drinks alcohol.

alligator bait, n. Stewed or fried liver. This is a staple article of food at construction camps. Bull's liver is kept until rotten in order to make it tender.

altar, n. The stool in a toilet.

ambulanter, n. A tramp who travels in a wagon with his family picking up odd jobs as he goes.

anchor, n. A short heavy tamping pick which somewhat resembles an anchor. v. (1) to get off a train. (2) To take residence in a place.

angel, n. A type of homosexual pervert. Also "cannibal."

angel food, n. Mission preaching.

anoint, v. To flog.

apple butter route, n. The N. and W. Ry. between Portsmouth and Circleville where hoboes are given hand-outs of bread and apple butter.

apple knocker, n. An apple picker, and by extension any fruit picker who gathers fruit from trees.

assignater, n. A prostitute who disguises her profession in order to get on the choice list of women who can be "invited in" when necessary by the manager of an assignation house.

aunt, n. An old bawd.

bacon, n. Plunder.

bad actor, n. A vagabond whose relatives send him small sums of money from time to time on condition that he does not return home to disgrace them.

bad road, n. A railroad on which tramps have killed a trainman. (See *fishing.*)

baldy, n. An old man. (Not necessarily baldheaded.)

ball, n. (1) A silver dollar. (2) A prison allowance.

band house, n. A prison.
band scratch, n. An ex-convict.
bang, v. To kill by shooting.
bang to rights. Caught in the act.
barrel-dosser, n. The lowest order of bums who sleep in and live upon the offal of barrel-houses. Also *barrel-stiff.*
barrel-fever, n. The delirium tremens.
barrel-house, n. A combination lodging house, brothel, and blind tiger of the filthiest sort.
baster, n. A house thief.
battle-wagon, n. (1) A heavy, iron coal car. (2) The police patrol wagon.
beach comber, n. A sailor tramp.
beagles, n. Sausages; an obvious attempt to invent an original synonym for "dogs."
bean-town, n. Boston.
beard-jammer, n. A whoremaster.
beat the prison, v. To escape from prison.
beef, v. To turn state's evidence.
be George, v. To be versed in the lore of the underworld. Also *be Jerry.*
be in the clear, v. To escape suspicion.
belch, v. To inform against a comrade.
belcher, n. A prostitute who is continually trying to explain herself.
bench warmer, n. A weary hobo whose home is a park bench.
benny, n. An overcoat.
bent, adj. Dishonest; an attempt to invent an original synonym for "crooked."
bible-ranter, n. A preacher, the most despised person on earth from the tramp's viewpoint.
big guy, the, n. God.
big house, n. The penitentiary. Also the big school.
big man, n. The Pinkerton Detective Agency.
big screw, n. A deputy warden.
big stew route, n. Tramp life in general.
bill of sale, n. A widow's weeds.
billy can, n. This term originally denoted a tea pot and seems to have been an Australian tramp word. It is common in the Canadian Northwest, where it now signifies any small cooking vessel.
bindle, n. A bundle, usually a blanket roll. Also *biddle.*
bindle-stiff, n. A tramp or hobo who carries a blanket. These men usually work the harvest fields of the West and Northwest.
bit, n. A prison sentence.
bitches'-heaven, n. Boston, so called as having numerous cheap prostitutes. New York and Chicago are denied this epithet.
bitter biscuit line, n. The Piedmont division of the Southern Railway, so called because the people in that vicinity feed tramps stale biscuits which have become bitter from the use of cheap, alum baking powder.

black bottle, n. (1) Knock-out drops. (2) An opiate. Tramps believe that doctors in charity hospitals administer a poisonous opiate to a sick man to save the trouble of curing him.

blankets, n. Griddle cakes.

blue goose, n. The convict cage at a prison camp.

blind baggage, n. The fore end of a baggage car, which often has no door. The tramp who rides the blind baggage (or the *blinds*) risks additional dangers of being shot as a train robber, being thrown off the rapidly moving train by the crew if his "blind" is not really a "blind" but has a door, and, if he is next the tender, of being "dew-dropped" by the fireman. This is nevertheless a popular place for young and daring tramps.

blinky, n. A blind or one-eyed tramp.

block, n. A watch.

bloomer, n. An empty safe.

blow, v. Run, decamp, escape.

blowed in the glass stiff, n. The out and out tramp, the "perfesh" who never debases himself with toil.

bludgeoner, n. A handsome wench, the *bludget,* prostitutes herself to a man in order to rob him. When this has been accomplished she gives a signal and the "bludgeoner" rushes in the room pretending to be the outraged husband of the woman.

bo, n. A contraction of hobo. The plural "boes" is applied to tramps as well.

boarding house, n. Specifically the Tombs prison, by extension, any prison.

bob, n. A shoplifter.

bo-cave, n. A shack where hoboes congregate.

body-snatcher, n. A contractor who entices, by higher wages, better living conditions, etc., hoboes who have been transported, often long distances, at the expense of other contractors.

boe's park, n. The railway yards.

boette, n. A female hobo. The number of women who take to the road each year has been estimated as high as eighty thousand.

bohobo, n. A young hobo.

boiler, n. The cook at a construction or lumber camp.

boil up, v. In the *jungles* tramps boil their clothes to cleanse and delouse them. In its wider sense, the term signifies a general personal cleaning up.

bone, v. (1) To persuade. (2) To beg.

bone polisher, n. A vicious dog.

booby hatch, n. The station house.

boodle jail, n. Certain dishonest town officials entice tramps to be arrested. They are fined thirty dollars or sentenced to thirty days, the latter sentence always being the one recorded. The tramp is promptly given a dollar and turned loose. The officer who made the arrest gets five dollars, the judge five, and the sheriff a dollar a day for thirty days. The county or town pays the bill.

boogie, n. (1) The prison hospital. (2) A nigger.

book, n. A contraction of pocketbook.

boomer, n. (1) A wandering workman who follows the various "booms,"—oil booms, Florida booms, etc. (2) A grafting railway official, such as a freight brakeman, who exacts a toll of a dollar a division from hoboes who attempt to ride trains.

booze-fighter, n. A dope fiend.

bouncer, n. A mission attendant who, during divine services, prods weary hoboes so that they shall not fall asleep and thereby miss the golden opportunity of coming forward to give themselves up to Jesus.

boxer, n. A box car.

brace, v. To request a loan.

bracers, n. Legs.

brakie, n. A freight brakeman, a much less common term than "shack."

brass check, n. A capitalist newspaper, i. e. any decent publication not friendly to the I. W. W., the socialist, or the reds. In many cheap brothels the patrons purchase a brass check to be given to a prostitute, she in turn receiving a percentage upon its presentation to the madame.

break one's guts, v. To flog a stubborn prisoner until his spirit is broken.

briar, n. A thin hack-saw blade with which a convict may saw the bars of his prison.

broad, n. A loose woman. Possibly a corruption of bawd. [General slang.]

buck wood, v. To saw wood as payment for food.

bug, n. A breast pin. v. To protect a safe with electric alarm devices.

bugs, n. Faked sores, by showing which a beggar receives money from the compassionate. The *bugs* are usually raised by the application of acids, lye, or poisonous insects such as the jigger or Cantharides beetle. Frequently tramps make them on the legs and arms of small boys whom they have enticed away.

bughouse square, n. Washington Square, Chicago, where soap-box socialists disseminate their economic gospel for the salvation of the down-trodden working man and then take up a collection from him afterwards.

bull of the woods, n. The boss of a lumber camp.

bull one's luck, v. To tempt Providence by a rash act.

bull pen, n. The large cage in a pail where general prisoners are kept. (See also *hobo.*)

bull ring, n. A walk or circular track within a prison, along which prisoners are forced to run as a punishment. Guards with whips are stationed at intervals to stimulate the exhausted men.

bum, n. The lowest order of tramp, who no longer roves but is content with the charity of slop-houses.

bum factory, n. (1) A cheap flop house. (2) A mission.

bum gang, n. In a prison, the detail of convicts who perform the most disagreeable tasks, such as policing the gutters, toilets and sewers of the institution.

bump, v. To kill.

bum park, n. Jefferson Park, Chicago, between Adams and Monroe streets, west of Throop street.

bum's rush, v. n. The act of being thrown out.
bum sick, adj. A town so overrun with tramps that it is hostile to them.
bundle, n. Plunder.
bundle-bum, n. A *bindle-stiff* of the lowest order.
bunk, n. Politeness.
bunker shy, adj. Adverse to pederasty;—from the bunkers on ships.
bunyan camp, n. A lumber camp where abominable living conditions prevail. Perhaps from the giant Bunyan of lumberman folk lore.
burglar, n. An active pederast;—possibly a corruption of *bugger.*
burly, n. An able-bodied tramp;—familiar to the tramps of Canada.
burr-head, n. A nigger.
buttermilk route, n. The environs of Pittsburgh.
bust, v. n. An emotional crisis which comes into the life of a prisoner suffering from monotony and cruelty. The condition often approaches a veritable mania which is easily communicated to other prisoners.
buzz, v. (1) To beg. (2) To pilfer.
buzzing, v. n. Making the *jungle* a permanent hangout for *jungle-buzzards* who sponge from tramps and foul the camp.
C. & A. pocket, n. A pocket with the bottom cut out so that the whole inner lining of the coat serves as a larger pocket of immense carrying capacity. Certain hick jurists still regard the possession of a coat with a C. & A. pocket as prima facie evidence that the wearer is a tramp.
cacklers, n. Office workers;—so called because of their supposed hen-coop effeminacy.
cage, n. Individual, wired-off partitions in the better class of *flop-houses* where men sleep.
Cain and Abel, n. A chair and a table.
California blankets, n. Newspapers used by homeless men as a substitute for bedding.
call, n. A pottage made by boiling bacon, potatoes, and onions together. v. To beg.
call the turn, n. To give the name, record, description, measurements, etc., of a criminal.
cally, n. The police station.
camp-dog, n. The hobo at construction camps who takes care of the bunks and belongings of hoboes at work.
cannon, n. A clever thief. A synonym for *gun.*
cannon ball, n. A fast freight, running on a limited schedule.
carry a balloon, v. To carry bedding roll and cooking utensils—said of a *bindle-stiff.*
carry the banner, v. To walk the streets all night long. Also *carry the stick.*
carry the mail, v. To run at top speed.
case, n. A silver dollar. v. To shoot from ambush.
casey, n. The Kansas City Southern Railway.
cash a rush in, v. A good samaritan who offers to feed a tramp is taken by the latter to a particular restaurant. The tramp later gets a percentage for having brought patronage.

cattle, n. Downtrodden working men who are having their life's blood sucked out by capitalists.

century, n. A hundred dollar bill.

chain rock, v. To break rock in the following manner. A narrow trail of large rocks is made, over which several men in single file move, breaking the lumps left by the man in front into still smaller pieces;—said of convicts.

chair barnacle, n. A bum who sits in railway depot waiting rooms, flop-house halls, and wherever else he may be tolerated.

chatter, v. To communicate by signs;—said of prisoners.

check gorilla, n. One who frequents cheap gambling houses and begs chips or checks with which to try his luck.

chew, v. To eat.

chewins, n. Food.

Chi, n. The abbreviation for Chicago, the hobo capital of America. Pronounced 'shy.'

chink-runner, n. One who smuggles aliens into the United States, whether in automobiles from Canada or boats from Cuba.

christen, v. To put the 14 K. mark upon cheap gilt jewellery, as done by peddlers to whom manufacturers furnish the die and the unstamped jewellery.

chronic around, v. To beg.

chronicer, n. (1) A tramp who carries his own cooking can. (2) An illnatured tramp.

chuck, n. Food.

chucker-out, n. A strong-arm bouncer.

Cinci, n. The tramp's abbreviation for Cincinnati. Pronounced "sinsy."

cinder sifter, n. A tramp.

cinder trail, n. (1) The railroad. (2) Tramp life in general.

clapper, n. (1) The tongue. (2) A contentious woman.

claw, v. To arrest.

close to one's belly, to live, v. To live a hand-to-mouth existence.

clown, n. A rural officer of the law.

coffee an', n. Coffee and a roll, a meal costing five cents.

coke heads, n. Cocaine addicts, and, by extension, the users of any drug.

coke party, n. A carousal, usually made up of thieves and prostitutes, where whisky and cocaine are the stimulants.

cold slough prowler, n. A thief who robs houses when their occupants are not at home.

combination, n. A stew containing a little of everything the tramp can beg or steal.

comet, n. (1) A tramp who has been on the road but for one brief interval. (2) A tramp who rides only fast passenger trains over long distances.

community bo, n. A young amateur tramp who takes to the road for a brief period just for the fun of it.

con, n. (1) Conductor. (2) Convict.

Conchy, n. The tramp's abbreviation for Connecticut.

con game of the watches, n. A certain firm makes imitation gold watches bearing well known names with only one letter changed, such as, Walthum, Elgen, Hamiltin. These are sold to credulous and unobservant persons for the genuine article at several hundred per cent profit. In addition these watches are usually "christened," q. v.

continual round of pleasure, a. This is a very common phrase among tramps, which is intended to characterize, ironically, the hunger, humiliation, disease, suffering, and heartache of the tramp's existence.

cop out, v. To arrest.

cop a sneak, v. To rob a place on the spur of the moment.

cotton-glaumer, n. A cotton picker.

cover oneself with the moon, v. To sleep outdoors without bedding.

crack a crib, v. To blast a safe. Also "crack a box."

cracked ice, n. Unset diamonds.

crash a joint, v. To break into a house.

crawlers, n. Legless beggars.

crib, n. A brothel containing a number of small rooms, each opening upon the street, which are rented to separate prostitutes.

crimp, n. An employment agent, usually one who signs up men to go to sea.

crimps, n. Rheumatism;—possibly a corruption of "cramps."

crimpy weather, n. Bad weather.

croaker, n. A prison doctor.

crooked arm, n. A blow, known technically as a *hook.*

crook eye, n. Many old detectives believe that they can always recognize a crook by a peculiar cast which is invariably present in their eyes and which they call the "crook eye."

cross, v. To offer an acceptable bribe.

crum, n. A louse.

crum boss, n. The janitor of a bunk house.

crum hill, n. A hill in "Bum Park," Chicago, where hoboes congregate.

crummy, n. The caboose of a freight train. adj. Lousy.

crum up, v. To boil one's clothes.

crusher, n. A policeman.

curve, n. A beautifully formed woman.

cutor, n. A prosecuting attorney.

cutter, n. A needle file with which a convict may cut his bonds and bars.

czar, n. The warden of a penitentiary.

dago red, n. Cheap wine. Also *red ink* and *rooje.*

damper, n. A cash register.

dangler, n. An exhibitionist.

date back to, v. Recall; remember. "I *date back to* wunst when I . . ."

davy, n. An affidavit.

dead, adj. (1) Off the road or otherwise out of touch with Hobohemia. (2) A freight train that is not moving.

dead cold sneak, v. n. An escape from prison by stealth as distinguished from a *break.*

dead freight, n. A freight train carrying heavy articles such as lumber and machinery which cannot easily be stolen.

dead head, n. Specif., one who steals a ride on a train.

death woods, n. A narrow strip of wood at the end of a box car, just above the coupler. These boards project sufficiently to allow a man to ride between cars, straddling the *death woods* with one foot on each car.

deck, n. The roof of a passenger or freight car. v. (1) To jump a train. (2) To climb to the roof of a train.

decoy, n. A safe painted on a canvas screen which is unrolled and propped up against the safe which the crooks intend to drill.

'ehorn, adj., v. and n. Anything which tends to ameliorate the condition of the down-trodden working man, such as shorter hours, better housing conditions, etc., making him forget the oppression of capital, is regarded as "dehorn." All kindness is regarded as propaganda which is cutting off the horns of the worker.

dew-drop, v. To heave lumps of coal in the air so as to fall at high angles upon the heads of hoboes riding between cars. This is usually done from the tender and by the fireman. When a hobo is riding the rods or gunnels, pieces of coal are dropped between trucks so that striking the ties they may rebound with sufficient violence to knock the hobo under the wheels. This is called *bombing a bum*. See also *fishing*.

dicer, n. A fast freight

dick, n. A plain clothes detective.

dig, n. A dump where stolen goods are hidden.

dim one's lights, v. To kill.

dinch, n. The butt of a cigar or cigarette.

ding-bat, n. A bum of the lowest order.

dip, n. A pickpocket.

dipsy, n. A workhouse sentence.

dirty plate route, n. The country around the Miller and Lux ranches in California.

distillery stiff, n. A tramp who is always drunk.

dock pirate, n. A thief who steals from the incoming and outgoing ships, and also from the warehouses about the wharves.

donkey riding, v. n. Short changing.

dope, the, n. The Baltimore and Ohio Ry.

dorse one's torch, v. To forget. "I *dorse me torch* what his moniker is."

doss, v. To sleep. n. A place to sleep.

doughnut lane, n. The Trenton-Harrisburg short cut of the Pennsylvania Ry., because doughnuts are frequently given to tramps as handouts.

drag, n. (1) Loot. (2) A long, disagreeable ride. (3) A loan. (4) A street, as for example, "The Main Drag."

drag net, n. A wholesale police hunt.

dress a roll, v. To arrange a roll of bank notes so that bills of high denomination are on the outside.

drill, v. To walk,—a most humiliating calamity to the brethren of the rails. This degrading method of locomotion is also known as *marching* and *dragging one's piles*.

druid, n. An old tramp.

drum, n. A safe.

ducket, n. (1) A ticket. (2) A begging letter carried about by a cripple.

dummy, n. (1) A faker who pretends to be deaf and dumb. (2) A fainting spell feigned to elicit sympathy.

dump, n. A lodging house, restaurant or general inside gathering place for tramps or hoboes.

dust, v. To escape; to decamp. [Common in other circles.]

dynamiter, n. A bum who sponges food from tramps who have worked hard to beg or steal their own. The tramp who is a successful beggar detests a parasite.

dyno, n. (1) Pick and shovel men on railway and highway construction work. (2) A tramp who travels the highways instead of the railroads.

dyno-rouster, n. Thieves who rob drunken men.

eagle eye, n. The engineer of a locomotive.

ear wigging, v. n. Listening; eavesdropping.

eastern circuit, n. The railway lines about New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington.

easy, adj. Dead or murdered.

elbow, n. A detective.

empty can trick, n. A man, feigning to be a motorist out of gas, stands on the highway, waving an empty gasoline can at passing motorists. The good samaritan who stops and gives him a lift is knocked over the head, robbed, and thrown into a ditch.

execution day, n. Wash day, when there is a wholesale hanging on the line.

exhibition meal, n. A *hand-out* placed on the porch or steps, where the tramp is subjected to the stares of the whole world.

expand one's chest, v. To talk.

eye opener, n. A pederast.

face lace, n. Whiskers.

fade, v. Escape.

faded bogey, n. A nigger stool pigeon.

fag, n. A type of homosexual pervert.

faker, n. A peddler who attracts a crowd by a speech, song, or acrobatic performance and then proceeds to sell them some wonderful article.

fall money, n. Money deposited by a gang of crooks for emergencies such as bail, lawyers fees, and the bribery of officials.

fall togs, n. Good clothes to be worn when on trial so as to create a favorable impression.

false alarm, adj. Contemptible; counterfeit. [General slang.]

feather, n. A bed.

feel, n. One of the most difficult problems in counterfeiting bank notes is to obtain paper which will have the right sort of "feel," because bogus notes are detected by the fingers more easily than with the eyes. To remedy this, silk threads are sometimes pasted on or sewn through the paper, or again gummed between two very thin sheets of paper. The hair of collie dogs, glued to the surfaces of a sheet, is another substitute.

fence, n. A receiver of stolen goods.

fiddle, v. To conceal, as of stolen goods.

field worker, n. In a highly organized gang of thieves, the man who actually does the stealing.

fight work, v. To work very hard.

file, n. A pickpocket.

finger, n. A policeman, so called from their supposed cat-like delight in fingering the men they have caught.

fingy, n. One who has lost one or more fingers.

fink, n. Originally a Pinkerton detective, now extended to mean any detective or a spying person. The change of *p* to *f* may be due to confusion with "finger."

fire, v. To throw a man off a train.

fireworks, n. Gun-play.

fishing, v. n. On a railway, where tramps have killed a trainman, the crews retaliate in kind upon any and every tramp. If the tramp must ride on one, he rides the "rods" underneath the truck, where he is least likely to be discovered. If, however, he is found, the trainmen take a length of rope, the *line,* to which they fasten a heavy nut which is called the *bait* or *sinker.* This is played out, back and forth, between the trucks. The iron *bait* rebounds upon the ties dealing sure death to whomsoever it strikes. It is this sport which goes under the name of "fishing."

fixer, n. The advance agent who precedes a fair, circus, carnival, etc., in order to bribe the mayor or city fathers of the town to allow pickpockets and gambling swindlers to operate.

fit-thrower, n. A beggar who feigns an epileptic fit in order to get money from sympathetic bystanders. Often he is accompanied by a mite of a girl, who makes a piteous outcry about not having money enough to take her poor daddy to the hospital.

flag, v. (1) To accost a prostitute. (2) To be arrested. (3) To "chatter." (4) To allow, as of pickpockets, a prospect to pass by untouched. (5) To beg. "I'm goin' to *flag* the main drag."

flash, v. To turn state's evidence.

flats, n. Griddle cakes.

flatty, n. A policeman, so called either by reason of their large, wide shoes or from the fact that they are supposed to suffer from fallen arches due to the arduous nature of their duties. Also *flat-foot.*

flip a car, v. To catch a ride.

flicker, v. To faint or to sham a faint.

floater, n. A migratory workman.

flop, v. To lie down; to rest; to sleep.

flop-house, n. A hobo rooming house.

flops, n. Legless beggars.

flunky, n. A cook's helper at a construction camp.

fly-bull, n. A detective. Also *fly-mug.*

fly a kite, v. (1) To pass a bad cheque. (2) To sell worthless stocks and bonds. (3) To write mournful letters, as of prisoners, to sympathetic old women and charitable institutions.

Ford children, n. Bastards born of *ford mothers.*

Ford family, n. A man, woman and any number of children all cruising about in a decrepit Ford. The children help to beg and steal food and gasoline. When too numerous they are abandoned.

Ford marriage, n. A union which has no stronger bonds than good humor and gasoline. When the male tires of his *flat tire* he abandons her, or if she is pregnant and is on the point of having a *blow-out.* He picks up a *spare* at the nearest brothel.

Ford mother, n. The women who have contracted *ford marriages* and are abandoned when ready for parturition.

fork, v. To pick pockets with the fingers straight and extended like the prongs of a fork. Any object within the pocket is seized by the sides of the fingers, the hand remaining flat so that it is easily withdrawn.

fresh bull, n. An energetic officer of the law.

fresh cat, n. A neophyte hobo.

fresh cow, n. One with a newly developed case of gonorrhea.

front, n. One's personal appearance.

front office, n. The police station.

funk, n. A sneak thief.

fuzz face, n. A young tramp.

fuzzy tail, n. An ill-humored tramp, so called, possibly, from the fact that certain angry animals bristle at the back and tail.

gad the hoof, v. To go barefoot.

gaff, n. To stay at a place longer than is customary with tramps. "You been *gaffin'* on that job like you was a gay cat."

gagger, n. One who prostitutes his wife. Also *jack gagger* and *jock gagger.*

galway, n. A Roman Catholic priest.

gandy dancer, n. A laborer on a railway steel gang.

garbage can, n. (1) An old prostitute. (2) A construction camp mess where the food is usually rotten and the cook understands no other way of cooking it than by boiling.

gas beggar, n. A tramp who travels, usually with a woman, in a decrepit automobile. Also *lizzy-stiff* and *gasoline bum.*

gat, n. A revolver. An abbreviation for 'gatling gun.'

gate lifter, n. A pig's snout, stewed or fried.

gay cat, n. (1) A young hobo. (2) A hobo who is willing to work. (3) A spy or scout for yeggs.

german conversation water, n. Beer.

get by, v. To earn a bare living.

get to one, v. To bribe.

get one's cut, v. To obtain one's share of the plunder, as of thieves.

get one's orders, v. To be given so many hours in which to leave town.

ghost story, n. A harrowing tale told by tramps to kindly and credulous housewives in order to elicit their sympathy.

ghoul, n. A blackmailer who follows a woman as she leaves an assignation house.

gill, n. A credulous person.

gimpy, adj. Lame.

gin, n. A nigger prostitute. This term, in Australia, is applied to native women. The word may be derived from *chin,* which means to have sexual intercourse.

gink, n. A tramp who occasionally works.

girl scout, n. A woman who acts as a spy for thieves. Often she is an usher, a dancer, a manicurist, a hairdresser, or one who has an opportunity to gain the confidence of rich people.

give one the book, v. To give a convicted person the maximum penalty.

give the shacks the spiel, v. To tell a heartwringing tale to a brakeman so that he will allow the narrator to ride on his train unmolested.

glaumed, to be, v. To be shanghaied, strong-armed, or arrested.

glass jaw, n. One who is cowardly. The term was originally used of prize fighters who were easily knocked out by blows upon the point of the chin.

glim, n. The eye.

glims, n. Spectacles.

glom, v. To steal. Also pronounced "glaum" and "glam."

glom the grape vine, v. To steal clothes from a clothesline. This is the tramp's regular method of keeping in clean linen.

glue neck, n. A filthy prostitute. Also *glue pot.* v. To stare.

go over the hill, v. To escape from prison.

go to school, v. To pass the night in a country school house.

gooh, n. A prostitute.

good, adj. Dead. "The old push is all *good* now."

good head, n. A kind-hearted person, one charitably disposed to tramps.

good people, n. Clever crooks.

gonif, n. A thief. This word may come from the Yiddish "gonof" which has a similar meaning.

gonsil, n. A young boy not yet captured and broken by a tramp. Compare *prushun.*

gooseberry bush, n. A clothesline. Also *grapevine.*

gooseberry pudding, n. A wanton woman.

goosing ranch, n. A brothel.

gopher man, n. A small town safe blower.

grab a handful of cars, n. To catch a freight.

grabbing scenery, v. n. Sticking one's head out of a box car to watch passing scenery. It is the mark of a "nut" in vagabondia to show any appreciation for the beauties of nature.

graduate, v. To be released from prison after having served the sentence.

graft, n. Honest work. The word seems to possess the meaning of "craft."

grafter, n. A tramp who belongs to a large number of fraternal organizations to which he resorts for charity.

grease, n. A heavy sediment which is obtained by boiling dynamite sticks in water. See *soup.*

grease ball, n. A low class tramp.

grease joint, n. A dirty restaurant.

grease the track, v. To be run over by a train.

greasy, n. The cook at a construction camp.
green dinner, n. In prison, a dinner containing fresh vegetables.
grey backs, n. Lice.
griddle, v. To sing hymns in a forlorn, cracked voice, on the street in order to elicit sympathy.
grifter, n. A robber.
groom, v. To run out of town. "The clown *groomed* me before I had a chanst to shake me feet."
ground hogs, n. Caisson workers.
grumble, v. To pray.
gump, n. A chicken.
gun, n. A clever crook.
gun-mob, n. A highly organized gang of crooks.
gun moll, n. (1) *A lady-yegg.* (2) A female tramp of non-criminal proclivities who merely carries a gun as insurance against the courtesy of train crews and yard dicks.
gunny sack charge, n. To be arrested on the charge of being a "suspicious person."
guts, n. Sausage, and by extension, meat in general.
gut-hammer, n. The dinner gong at a construction camp.
gut-reamer, n. An active pederast. Also *gut-butcher, gut-stretcher, gut-stuffer,* etc.
gyppo, n. A piece worker. "A *gyppo's* a goddam skunk what's too goddam mean to join a union."
halfy, n. A beggar with both legs cut off close to the hips.
halleleujah peddler, n. A minister.
handle, n. Name. "Whut's yer *handle?*" [Common slang.]
handy wagon, n. The police patrol wagon.
hang something on one, v. To convict on false evidence.
happy dust, n. Cocaine.
harvest buzzard, n. A yegg who follows the harvests in order to rob the migratory workmen as they are paid off.
harvest, v. To arrest tramps.
hat trick, n. The passing of the hat for a collection at the end of a soap box oration.
hay bag, n. A female hobo.
hay burner, n. A horse or mule.
hay wire outfit, n. One at which the workers are furnished with poor living facilities.
heaven reacher, n. A preacher.
heavy sugar guy, n. A good spender, the prey of the *mush worker.*
heister, n. (1) A nickname. Suggested etymon, Ger. "heissen." (2) A shoplifter.
heifer dust act, the, v. n. An arrest and cross-questioning by the police
highball, v. To signal for a train to move.
highball camp, n. A camp in which the straw boss speeds up work by methods which to the worker are unethical.
high roller, n. A tramp who happens to have some money.

hijack, v. Besides the common meaning which this word has received during the recent development of the bootleg industry, it has the following additional ones. (1) To commit pederasty upon a boy forcibly. (2) To force membership of the I. W. W. upon hoboes.

hit, v. To approach one with the intention of begging.

hitch-hiking, v. n. Begging rides from passing automobiles, and walking between lifts. [General slang.]

hit the grit, v. To be thrown off a train. Also *hit the sod.*

hit the ground, v. To obtain a parole.

hit the highway, v. To walk along the highway.

hit the ties, v. To walk along the railway.

hobo, n. A migratory worker who travels and lives as do tramps but who will work after a fashion if the opportunity is thrust upon him.

So many guesses have been made as to the etymon of this curious word that it may be excusable to add the following:

The term "hobo" can be traced back not much farther than the last decades of the nineteenth century when the railways were opening up large sections of the West and Southwest, where there are even now a large number of Spanish settlers. There is a familiar interjection "jopo," related possible to English "hop," with the meaning "get out," "be off." In common with other Spanish-American words the initial *j* would become the aspirate *h* (compare *hoosgow*), while the intervocal *p* would voice probably to *b*, giving exactly "hobo." Now it is quite possible that tramps, pioneers, and workers out of jobs coming to these Spanish American houses for food, would be met with the shout "hobo, hobo" and that they themselves, and witnesses, would naturally suppose that "hobo" was the nickname for that class of unfortunate men.

hobo and tin can route, n. The Houston and Texas Central Railway.

hobo belt, n. The Southern California Citrus country to which great armies of hoboes migrate during the winter.

hobo cage, n. The large cage in a jail where general prisoners are herded together. It receives its name from the fact that such prisoners are usually hoboes. Also *the hobo.*

hobo night hawk, n. A railway dick disguised as a hobo.

hog, to be on the, v. To be dead broke.

hog engine, n. A large, heavy freight locomotive.

hog's eye, n. A common type of lock which somewhat resembles the eye of a pig.

hold down a train, v. To ride a train in spite of the opposition of the crew.

hold the kid, v. To keep a *prushun* in subjection.

hold the lady down, v. To ride the rods or gunnels over a rough road. The metaphor vividly describes the motion of the trucks and the position of the tramp.

holler, n. The complaint of one who has been injured by a tramp.

hook, n. A crook.

hoop, n. (1) A ring. (2) A belt.

hop, n. Opium and its derivatives; also any drug.

hop-head, n. A dope fiend.

hoodoo town, n. Tramps are exceedingly superstitious. If one happens to have a disastrous experience twice in the same town he immediately regards it as an unlucky town, a *hoodoo town.*

hoosgow, n. A country jail. This word seems to come from Spanish "juzgado" which means a cell where condemned persons are kept. In colloquial Spanish this would be pronounced "juzgao" which in Spanish American would became "hoosgow."

hoosier, n. An incompetent workman or tramp.

hostile, adj. Hostile to tramps and hoboes. Pronounced *horse-tile.*

hot chair, n. The electric chair.

hot joint, n. (1) A house to be robbed while the occupants are in it. (2) A noisy house of prostitution.

hot shot, n. A fast train.

hot tongue, n. A passionate woman.

house for rent, n. A widow.

house work, v. n. Begging from house to house, or selling small articles such as needles, shoe strings, etc. Said usually of *prushuns* who are forced to do this by their *jockers.* This *housework* is invariably done between nine and eleven in the morning as at that time the housewives are most responsive and the police least meddlesome.

hunger lane, n. Any railway which goes through a barren, inhospitable, or poverty-stricken country.

hurry buggy, n. The police patrol wagon.

ice palace, n. A high class brothel with elegant furnishings.

indorser, n. A sadist flogs prostitutes.

innocent, n. A convict. Most convicts maintain, even to one another, that they have been falsely convicted.

Irish pasture, n. A state of coma. "I socked that dick into the *Irish pasture.*"

Irish shave, n. The act of defecation.

Irish turkey, n. Corned beef and cabbage.

iron house, n. Jail.

jake, n. Money. A synonym for "jack."

jack-roller, n. One who robs sleeping or drunken tramps.

jacob, n. A ladder.

java, n. Coffee. Also *jamocha.*

jaw fest, n. Telling stories about the *jungle* fire.

jenny linda, n. A window.

jerk road, n. A small, branch railway.

jerry, n. A railway section worker.

Jesus stiff, n. A neuropathic tramp whose particular insanity is to disseminate the gospel.

jewelry, n. (1) Handcuffs. Also *bracelets.* (2) A woman's sexual organs.

jigger, n. (1) An artificial sore, so called because it is sometimes made by applying a jigger. (2) A very slow freight.

jigger man, n. The man who acts as a sentinel or lookout while a *lay* is being robbed.

jiggeroo, interj. A warning that the police are coming.

jimmy act, n. An arrest. Also, *Jim Brown* act.

job, v. (1) To convict on false charges. (2) To tell an employer about a convict to secure the latter's discharge.

jocker, n. An old tramp who trains a young boy, his *prushun,* to beg and steal for him.

joey, n. A hypocrite.

John Family, n. (1) Yeggs. (2) John Law, John Farmer, etc.

John Law, n. (1) A policeman. (2) The moils of the law in general.

John O'Brien, n. A slow freight.

join out, n. To sign up with a construction company in order to receive the free transportation provided by the latter.

jomer, n. A mistress.

Joseph, n. A bashful man.

joy house, n. A brothel.

joy rider, n. A legless beggar who rides about on a board mounted on a roller skate, propelling himself by pushing on blocks held in the hands. Also *skater* and *skooter.*

jump, v. (1) To ride long distances at a time on trains. (2) To be electrocuted. When the current is turned on there is a powerful contraction of the muscles which sometimes breaks the traps binding the condemned man to the chair.

jump 'cross lots and sideways, v. To walk across country.

jumper tramp, n. One who takes long rides on trains.

jug head, n. A numbskull.

jungle, n. (1) A hobo or tramp's camp. These camps are situated near railway yards or highway crossings close to a brook or spring. Tin cans for boiling are hidden where they may be found by the tramps and not by the *clowns,* who invariably shoot them full of holes. These cans are kept scrupulously clean and under them are often left coffee, salt, sugar, etc., for the next comer who in turn washes the can and leaves what he has not used for the next man. The *jungle* is the social club of the tramp, and its rules are very strict. In the evening, when the fires are lit, there is cooking, singing, sewing and story telling. (2) The world outside from the viewpoint of a prisoner. (3) The underworld.

jungle-buzzard, n. A tramp who begs food from other tramps and who leaves the cooking utensils of the *jungle* dirty. When caught in such an act of vandalism, he is tied to a tree and unmercifully flogged.

jungle up, v. To sleep, eat, or repair one's clothes at a *jungle.*

junk, n. Dope.

junker, n. A dope fiend, usually one who uses a hypodermic needle, the *gun.*

just busted, adj. Newly entered into the life of vagabondage. Also *just broke out.*

kangaroo, n. A mock court in jail. As soon as a new man enters a jail the other prisoners convene and try him on the charge of "breaking into jail." He is searched, and if he has any money it is taken from him to

be used for tobacco for the general prisoners. If the man tried submits good naturedly to the court, he is let off with the punishment of some small task. If he resents it he is bullied unmercifully.

Kate, n. A handsome prostitute.

keister, n. (1) A suitcase. (2) A safe. (3) A box. Suggested etymon, German "kasten."

kennel, n. A house.

kicks, n. Shoes.

kid, n. A *prushun,* the *wife* of a *jocker.* He is always known as "so and so's *kid.*"

kid glove, n. A high class crook.

kid-simple, adj. Possessing a violent neurotic passion for a certain boy; said of a *jocker.*

king snipe, n. The foreman of a track gang.

kip, v. To sleep or to pass the night. Suggested etymon, Scotch "kip"= "brothel." (2) To watch, as of a night watchman. n. A night watchman.

kip town, n. One with good lodging facilities.

kitchen, n. The stomach.

kneel at the altar, v. To commit pederasty. See *altar.*

knick of a bank, v. To rob a bank. Also *knock off a bank.*

knight of the road, n. A tramp. The tramps themselves prefer this high-sounding term of literary flavor.

knock, v. To betray as in the turning of state's evidence.

knock over, v. To steal deftly and quickly as in shoplifting and pocket picking.

knowledge box, n. A country school house.

knuck, n. A pickpocket.

knuckle interview, n. A thrashing with the fists.

labor shark, n. An employment agent.

lam, v. To run.

lamb, n. A young boy who succumbs to the pederasty of *wolves* or criminal tramps. They are equivalent to the "petits jésus" of the French. v. To herd sheep.

lamous, adj. Harmless.

land of manna, n. The Mormon country. The Mormons are very kind-hearted and generous to tramps. Even the railways which run through their country are called *milk and honey* routes.

law, n. An opportunity to escape. "I seen my *law* an' lammed fer hell."

lawn mowers, n. Cowslips.

lay, n. A house or bank which is to be robbed.

lead pencil crook, n. A beggar who sells lead pencils.

lead-spitter, n. A revolver.

leather, n. A pocket book.

leather head, n. A louse.

lefty, n. A tramp with the left arm or leg gone.

letter carrier, n. A young hobo, possibly because young truants still write home to their parents.

library birds, n. Bums of both sexes who loiter in the public libraries in bad weather under pretext of reading.

life boat, n. A pardon, first for a capital offense, then by extension, for any offense.

lift, v. To steal.

light house, n. A crook who is an adept at spotting plain clothes detectives in order to warn his companions.

light piece, n. A small piece of silver.

lig-robber, n. A thief who hides under beds in houses where women are alone and robs and assaults them.

lilies, n. The hands. "I butchered wood all day and dug the splinters out of me *lilies* fer a week after."

lime juicer, n. A British sailor.

line, n. The red light district.

little school, n. The reformatory. The penitentiary is the *big school.*

live stock, n. Prostitutes in a crowded house.

load the calaboose, v. Periodic arresting of tramps. In many small, tramp-infested towns the jails are too small to accommodate all the tramps. They are therefore filled to capacity on a certain day, all being given the same sentence.

load of culls, n. Hash.

local rider, n. One who only occasionally takes to the road.

locust, n. A police club;—so called from often being made of locust wood.

lone wolf, n. A bandit or house breaker who works without confederates.

long line skinner, n. A driver of a mule team of more than one pair.

long straw belt, n. The wheat-raising country of the North and West.

look for space, v. To search for a job.

Lord's supper, n. Prison fare of bread and water. A "set-down to the *Lord's supper*" is equivalent to "a term in prison."

lost, adv. Murdered;—said of a *jocker's* recalcitrant *prushun.* The boy is frequently *lost* by being knocked under the wheels of a train.

lump, n. Food given to a tramp which is wrapped up in a paper parcel. Also *ball, poke-out, duckee,* etc.

lush, n. Whisky, or one who indulges in whisky excessively.

lush worker, n. (1) Any one who robs drunken men. (2) A prostitute who extorts money from a man by trickery, blackmail, blandishments, or robs him when drunk.

lye bug, n. An artificial sore raised by the application of lye.

lying dead, v. n. Used of a freight train that has come to a stop.

main guy, n. The leader of a *push* or gang of crooks.

make 'em little, v. To undergo sentence on the rock pile of a penitentiary.

make on the fly, v. To catch a moving train.

make the boast, v. To secure a pardon from the pardon board;—said of a prisoner.

make up one's own train, v. To walk.

man catcher, n. A runner or agent for a hobo employment agency. Also *man hunter.*

man killer, n. A penitentiary in which the convicts are treated with more than the usual brutality.

mark, n. A person who will give either food or money. v. To inscribe secret symbols. Most tramps stoutly deny the existence of any such secret code. However, certain signs do exist which are both universal and particular. As to the latter, many *pushes* sometimes have quite complicated codes which are altogether unintelligible to those outside. The former are few and simple. A pair of open eyes means that the police of a town are hostile; closed, that they do not molest tramps. Circles on a gate post indicate that the owner of the house to which it belongs will give money. A grid surmounted by the letters O. K. signifies that the town jail is cleanly and is a good place to pass the night in; the grid with a cross signifies that the jail has an evil reputation. A zig-zag line in front of a house indicates the presence of a vicious dog, while the outline of a cup tells of the existence of a place where bootleg whisky can be obtained. These signs are usually to be found on water tanks along the railway, on highway signs, and on walks and gateposts.

married, adj. Said of two men handcuffed together.

marry, v. To enter into homosexual relations.

mawk, n. A slovenly whore.

meal ticket, n. A charitable person who can be inveigled into giving a tramp a meal.

millionaire hobo, n. A poor student who beats his way home from school in order to save railway fare. The democratic tramp hates such a student because he imagines him to be a rich parasite living in idleness.

minister's snout, n. Boiled pig's head. Also *minister's face.*

missionary, n. One who acts as a procurer for a prostitute.

missionary act, v. n. Begging.

mission squawker, n. A mission evangelist.

mission-stiff, n. A tramp who is "saved" every night in order to obtain food and shelter.

mitts, n. A tramp who has lost one hand or both.

mob, n. A gang of criminals.

moll, n. A woman of the underworld.

moll-buzzer, n. (1) A "lady-beggar." (2) A pick-pocket who preys upon women.

mongee, n. Food. This word comes from the French "manger" as it sounds to the tramp who has visited the French-Canadian provinces.

moniker, n. A tramp's nickname; his "nom de rail," such as "Pittsburgh Red," "Pennsylvania Slim." These names are usually compounds of the tramp's birthplace with some physical peculiarity. [General slang.]

mooch, v. To beg. Suggested etymon, Old German "muchen" or "muchhen" = to steal. The same word is possibly to be identified with the verb "muchare" in the Ancren Riwle (1210), while Robert Copeland, in Hye way to the Spittal-house, mentions "michers" = "thieving beggars." The meaning of "wheedle" or "coax" is also to be found in the provincial English and American verb "to much."

moon, n. A night.

mopes, v. n. Killing time.

moses, n. A man who fathers another's child for money, or who, for a consideration, will swear that he has seduced a girl who accuses another man with having betrayed her.

mouth piece, n. (1) A stool pigeon. (2) A criminal lawyer.

mucker, n. A shovel man.

muck stick, n. A long handled shovel.

mug, n. (1) A thief's face. (2) The rogue's gallery photograph of a thief. v. To photograph and take the measurements of a crook.

mugging joint, n. A town which *mugs* every suspicious person arrested.

mule, n. Corn whisky.

mulligan, n. A jungle stew made of odds and ends. When several tramps meet in the "jungle" and decide to make a "mulligan," one is given the job of stealing or begging the meat, another the potatoes, another the salt, etc. Under no pretext does the tramp dare to return empty-handed. Even if arrested in line of such duty he must contrive to send word to his friends.

mush-faker, n. (1) An umbrella mender. From its appearance when open an umbrella is called a *mushroom,* which is in this compound abbreviated to *mush.* (2) A low grade tramp.

mush worker, n. An attractive woman who fleeces unsuspecting men by telling them some pitiful *racket.*

mustard shine, n. An application of mustard oil to the shoes for the purpose of throwing bloodhounds off the scent. Many prisons and rural constables keep bloodhounds for the purpose of running down criminals. A little mustard oil, olive oil, and mustard, or, failing that, simply water and mustard or any strong spice, even pepper, if applied after the trail has been scented, will render the most melodramatic bloodhound powerless. Prisoners will scrape and save bits of pepper and condiment from their food for this purpose when contemplating an escape.

ned, n. A ten dollar gold piece.

nest, n. A park bench.

new jice, n. One newly arrived at a penitentiary.

nick, v. (1) To steal. (2) To beg.

nickel-pincher, n. A stingy person.

niggle, v. To have sexual intercourse.

nip, v. To open a locked door from the outside when the key is still in the keyhole. A pair of thin, hollow pointed pliers are inserted into the keyhole, fastening the end of the key firmly enough to permit it to be turned.

nipper, n. A small, but very powerful wire cutter which can be concealed in the hand. This is used to "cut the ice off its prop," that is to cut off the jewel, at its setting, from the ring or scarf pin.

nosebag, n. A lunch carried in a paper bag.

nosebag show, n. The spectacle of one eating his lunch from a paper bag.

notion counter, n. A crook who secures commissions from placing bets, drumming up trade for prostitutes, bootleggers, etc., or fencing stolen property.

oak towel, n. A club. "The flatty give me a damn good rub down with his *oak towel*"

obie, n. A country post office.

office, n. A secret sign employed by criminals, as for example tapping the back of the hand to indicate a desire to enter into conversation.

old girl, n. An affectionate nickname for a railway locomotive.

old head, n. A veteran convict.

old ladies' home, n. A house of prostitution where no boisterous conduct is permitted. The madame in charge would regard a *ballum-rancum* as grossly immoral. The "ladies" also conduct themselves with stiff, genteel decorum, even eschewing profanity and slang.

old man, n. The conductor of a freight.

old stager, n. A master tramp.

oliver, n. The moon.

on the beach, adj. Down and out.

on the crack, adj. Out for burglary. Also *on the grift.*

on the crook, adj. Committed to the life of the underworld.

on the cushions, to be. v. To ride in a passenger coach.

on the grade, to be. v. To work at railway construction work.

on the lam, adj. At top speed.

open, n. Tramp life in general.

open work, n. Safe-blowing.

Oregon boot, n. A boot of iron straps or wicker work covering the foot and leg of a prisoner to prevent his escape. The ordinary ball and chain fastened with an anklet is very easily filed through. The iron straps of the *Oregon boot* offer greater difficulty.

owl's head, n. A short, heavy revolver, frequently having a finger hole in the grip allowing it to be used in addition as a *knuckle duster.*

pack mustard, v. To carry a hod.

pack the rigging, v. To carry socialistic, Bolshevistic, or I. W. W. literature.

paddle, n. Corporal punishment of the following character, as it is practiced in most prisons. Four iron clasps are fastened to the sides of a large wooden tub which is filled with water. A prisoner, wholly naked, is stretched over this tub, his hands and feet fastened to the clamps. By keeping his limbs rigid he can hold his head above the water. Failing this he receives a ducking. While in this painful position he is flogged with long thin wooden paddles which have been soaked in hot water and frequently rubbed through sand. See also *water cure.*

pad money, n. Money for a night's lodging or for admission into an opium den.

pad the hoof, v. To walk.

palace sleeping car, n. A wretched box car which is used to house hoboes at construction camps.

pan, n. A woman's body, specifically the genitals.

panhandler, n. An able-bodied beggar.

pannel-crib, n. A brothel in which a man is robbed as follows. The victim is lured to a room to which there is access by a secret and often very ingenious door. A panel of the door may lift out; the door itself may be securely locked but arranged so as to swing open with its entire frame; again there are trap doors in the floor or ceiling. When the woman has got her guest to sleep a second thief enters and steals the man's money. In the morning, should the victim wax indignant over his loss, the thief rushes in, pretending to be the woman's husband, and attempts to intimidate him.

panning, v. n. A beating.

paper hanger, n. A forger.

paper hanging, v. n. Passing forged cheques.

parasite, n. One of the idle rich; that is, anyone who tries to be respectable and earn an honest living.

passenger-stiff, n. A neurotic tramp who has a passion for riding fast trains.

pathfinder, n. A criminal used as a spy by the police.

patter, n. The slang of the underworld.

pearl diver, n. (1) A dishwasher. (2) A type of homosexual pervert.

peat, n. A safe.

peat-man, n. A bungling, amateurish safe cracker.

peddle out, v. To beg clothes and then sell them to second hand dealers.

peg, n. A tramp who has lost a foot. v. To shoot.

Pennsylvania feathers, n. Coal.

Pennsylvania salve, n. Apple butter.

pennyweight job. n. Robbing jewels.

percentage bulls, n. The police of a town that extorts a commission from gamblers, thieves, prostitutes, etc., for protection.

phony crip, n. A beggar who fakes a deformity.

phony stiff, n. One who sells fake jewelry.

piano, n. A convict's work bench in a penitentiary.

pick a gooseberry bush, v. To steal clothes from the line.

pick up, v. To arrest.

picture frame, n. The gallows. "I ain't gonna put my neck in no *pitcher frame* fer no woman."

pie card mission, n. One in which the "saved" are given free meal tickets.

pie in the sky, n. Reward in the Kingdom of Heaven. As almost all tramps are atheists of the bitterest sort, and yet must "come to Jesus" regularly in order to eat the bread of charity which the missions dole out, they avenge themselves by parodying hymns. "Watch and Pray," for example, has the refrain:

> Watch and pray, starve on hay
> You'll get *pie in the sky* when you die.

pig, n. A woman—sottish, surly, disgruntled, stinking—who has sunk to the lowest level of prostitution. The bum who *keeps a pig* rents her out to others.

pigeon joint, n. A hardware store where the implements of burglary can be purchased.

pilot, n. The boy who accompanies a blind beggar. The American "Lazarillo."

pillinger, n. One who begs in front of public buildings and stores.

pill peddler, n. The doctor at a construction camp.

ping pong, v. To curry mules.

pistol route, n. Death by shooting.

pit, n. A pocket.

plant, n. The plan of a robbery.

pling the stem, v. To beg money on the street.

plutes, n. Plutocrats. See *parasites.*

poggies, n. The poorhouse.

poke, n. A pocketbook.

poke out, n. A lunch wrapped up in a paper which the kindly but timid housewife pokes out at the tramp.

pole pulling, v. n. Hop picking.

pokey-stiff, n. A tramp who lives altogether upon the lunches given him by housewives.

ponce, n. A man, not a pimp, kept by a woman as a means of rejuvenation.

pooch, n. (1) A dog. (2) A prison mascot, frequently a dog.

pork, n. A corpse.

pork packer, n. A neurotic with necrophilist tendencies.

possesh, n. An abbreviation for "possession," the boy belonging to a *jocker.*

possum trick, n. Highway robbery as follows. A man lies on the side of a highway pretending to be injured. A kind-hearted motorist stops, puts him in his back seat and goes for a doctor. The man, seeing his opportunity, strikes his benefactor over the head with a blackjack.

pot gang, n. A gang of hoboes congregating in the *jungle.*

poultice route, n. A railway which passes through Mormon territory. A *poultice* is a slice of bread covered with gravy or preserves.

pound one's ear, v. To sleep.

powder monkey, n. The dynamiter at a construction camp, or one of his helpers.

privates, n. Private houses. "I been batterin' the *privates* all day."

producer, n. The chief of a gang of yeggs, tramps, or beggars.

profesh, n. The professional tramp of the highest grade.

prop getter, n. A thief who steals scarf pins.

proper stiff, n. A tramp who never works. Manual labor is regarded as quite improper by this gentry.

prushun, n. A boy who is enslaved by a tramp. Tramps induce these boys to run away from home and break their spirit by acts of unspeakable cruelty. The tramp lives in idleness while the boy goes about begging food for both. Many continue as *prushuns* until middle life, and when their master dies are left helpless.

punch the wind, v. To ride a train in a position where the full force of the wind strikes one.

punk, n. (1) Bread. (2) A young tramp. (3) A prushun.
punk and gut, n. Bread and bologna.
punish one's teeth, v. To eat
push, n. A gang of criminal tramps or yeggs.
pusher, n. A foreman.
quail, n. An old maid.
quarantine, n. A forced delay on the road, such as a tramp's being thrown off his train so that he has to wait for another.
race, v. To extort money, as of pimps and "gold diggers" "I *raced* me old Santa Claus for a century."
racket, n. A fictitious story told to elicit sympathy. This is applied especially to the *mush worker's* story. These stories are almost stereotyped. There is the "sick mother racket," the "you tore my teddy racket," and finally the "I was trying to be a pure girl when you . . .," which is successful only after the victim has been mellowed by alcohol.
rag-house, n. A tent.
rail, n. A railway detective.
railroad, v. To ride a train.
railroad bible, n. The "Official Guide for Railways."
rake, n. A comb.
ralph, n. A fool.
rambler, n. A high class tramp who rides only passenger trains. There are two classes of *ramblers,* the *foxes* who ride inside by stealing hat checks, clambering into the women's toilets, etc., and the *wolves* who ride by brute force.
rammer, n. The arm.
rank cat, n. A low grade tramp.
ranked, adj. Said of an attempted burglary which has miscarried.
rattler, n. A freight train.
razor-back, n. A circus roustabout.
realize, n. To secure money by begging.
recruit, n. A new prostitute.
red card, n. An I. W. W. membership card.
red eye, n. Cheap whisky.
red shirt, n. A refractory prisoner. In some prisons a man who has made an attempt at an escape or who has taken part in a prison mutiny is forced to wear a bright red shirt.
red ticket, n. Permission to visit a prisoner. Some institutions issue permits on red cards to visitors.
reef a breach, v. To rob one's pocket book by cutting a hole in the outer garment through to the pocket, which is also either slit or cut off entirely. Also *reef a leather.*
reefer, n. An ice box.
relievers, n. Shoes.
remittance man, n. A tramp, often of good family, supported by a small allowance from his relatives on condition that he never returns home to disgrace them.
repeater, n. A tramp who is continually arrested.

rest house, n. An easy penitentiary.
rhino, n. Money.
ride out a train, v. To continue to ride a train in spite of the efforts of the train crew to prevent it.
ride the cushions with a ducket in one's coffee bag, v. To have a ticket in one's pocket with which to pay for a ride inside a passenger coach.
ride the gunnels, v. To ride over the long truss rods which support the bottom of a car.
ride the plush, v. To ride inside a passenger car.
ride the rods, v. To ride a small iron bar which extends between the axles of the wheels of a truck and parallel to them. The tramp provides himself with a *ticket,* or small notched board, which he places over the rod and sits upon.
ride the shoe leather express, v. To walk.
righty, n. A tramp who has lost either his right arm or leg.
ring tail, n. A surly hobo.
road hog, n. A neuropathic tramp who has a passion for riding on none but the fastest trains.
road kid, n. A young hobo not under the domination of a jocker.
road sister, n. A female hobo.
rob the mail, v. To eat only the cakes, pies, and sweets from a hand-out given by a baker. The analogy is that of a thief who sorts out only the valuable letters from the others in a mail bag.
rock candy, n. Jewelry, usually diamonds.
roll a stiff, v. To rob a drunken man.
rope, v. To spy upon criminals.
rumble, v. To betray a pal.
rum-dum, adj. Intoxicated sufficiently to be silly yet not enough to lose the power of locomotion.
rummy, n. A small-scale, respectable bootlegger.
rust eater, n. A track layer.
sacred tract road, n. The Boston and Albany Railway;—so called because the pious farmers in its locality are more prone to hand out scriptural exhortations to tramps than food.
sag, v. To club senseless.
sage brush savage, n. A hobo who hires out temporarily as a cowboy.
saleslady, n. A prostitute.
salvation rancher, n. A minister.
salve one along, v. To treat courteously.
sap, v. To beat, a sapling being a club.
savages, n. Hobo workmen in a gang, having their own leader.
scalper, n. (1) A dealer in second hand railway tickets. (2) An utterer of counterfeit railway tickets, hat checks, passes, etc.
scatty, adj. Ill-natured.
scenery bum, n. One who walks on the highway.
scrape off the pavement, v. To shave.
screw, n. A prison turnkey.

scratch house, n. A tramp's lodging house;—from its vermin.

scroof, v. To live with a pal at his expense. When a mug who has been in the *stir* a long time finally breaks out, he is *blind*—that is, bewildered by the changes which have taken place around him. Until he becomes accustomed to them and can frame himself up some *plant,* he lives under the wing of another rascal.

seals, n. Counterfeit coins. The impression of a genuine coin is made in a mould of plaster of paris. Into this type metal is run which leaves a very clear *seal.*

seam squirrel, n. A louse.

Sears Roebuck detective, n. A rural Sherlock Holmes.

sea-stiff, n. A sailor who has taken to the road.

settled. Said of one in prison.

sewer hog, n. A ditch digger.

sew up, v. To convict on overwhelming evidence.

shack, n. A railway brakeman.

shack up, v. To put up for the night.

shackles, n. Soup.

shake down, v. To force a contribution, as of policemen who levy upon thieves and whores for their protection.

sharps, n. Needles.

shate on one's uppers, v. To go about dead broke.

sheets, n. Newspapers used as blankets. Also *the bum's comforter.*

shillaber, n. The barker at a circus or carnival.

shirt reading, v. n. Picking the lice from one's garments.

shiv, n. A razor.

shonniker, n. A Jewish pawnbroker.

short line, n. Suicide by standing in front of an oncoming train. This is not an infrequent end for those crippled by disease and exposure and made miserable by poverty. Also "The Hobo Short Line."

short staker, n. A restless hobo who works only long enough to get a few dollars together before he is off again.

shovel bum, n. A second rate tramp.

shover, n. An utterer of counterfeit money.

shroud, n. A suit of clothes.

shupper, n. A schooner of beer.

side door pullman, n. A box car.

side jump, n. An unimportant branch railway.

side track, n. An alias, said of a criminal.

simple, adj. Afraid of, as "bull-simple," "car-simple."

simpoleon, n. A simpleton.

silver, v. To alter a penny by treating it with mercury and acid in order to pass it off as a dime to unobservant persons.

sit down, n. A hot meal given to a tramp inside the kitchen. This is the "summum desideratum" of hungry tramps. Also *set-down.*

sizzler, n. The cook at a construction camp.

skeleton screw, n. A master key.

skid row, n. The lowest strata of the underworld.
skin a pearl, v. Disguising a stolen pearl by soaking it in warm water and peeling one or more of its outer coats or layers off. Size, weight, and frequently tint are thus completely altered.
skin a rattler, v. To rob hoboes riding on a freight.
skip the cinders, v. To take to the road.
skull dragging, v. n. Begging drinks.
slam a gate, v. To beg from private houses.
slave, n. A wage earner.
slave market, n. West Madison Street, Chicago, where a great many hobo employment agencies are located.
slides, n. Shoes.
slip up, n. A "faux pas" which leads to a criminal's capture.
slope along, v. To move on.
slops, n. Beer.
slop up, v. To get drunk.
sloose, n. A railway sleuth.
slough, v. To drink.
sloughed, p. p. Arrested.
slough worker, n. A country workman.
sluffed, adj. Spent.
slugging committee, n. An I. W. W. membership committee.
smile, n. A drink of whisky.
smoke wagon, n. A revolver.
smut, n. A picture, indicative of its general obscene character.
snag, v. To commit pederasty.
snake, v. To pass a tramp on from one division run to another, said of friendly brakemen.
snakey route, n. The Oregon and California Railway, so called because there are so many curves over its mountainous route.
snare, v. To entice a boy to run away from home and become a prushun.
snails, n. Cinnamon rolls.
snots, n. Oysters.
snifter, n. A cocaine fiend.
snipe, n. (1) A cigar butt. (2) A railway section hand.
snips, n. Scissors.
snow-bird, n. A cocaine fiend.
soap racket, n. Prisoners sometimes swallow small quantities of laundry soap. This causes a deathly pallor on the face, fluttering of the heart, and other symptoms of grave sickness. The prisoner is accordingly put into the prison hospital.
soaker, n. A sickening experience.
sod, n. A drunken tramp. Suggested etymon, "sot."
soft heel, n. A railway detective.
sop, n. Gravy made in the *jungle.*
soup, n. Liquid nitroglycerine. This is carried by the yegg in a small flask for the purpose of *opening up a can* (cracking a safe). The cracks

around a safe door are sealed shut by smearing soap over them. A small hole is then drilled near the bolt or an upper hinge. The *soup* is squirted into this hole with an oil can and set off with a short fuse.

soul aviator, n. A preacher.

sour paper, n. A bad cheque.

Spanish windlass, n. A strait jacket used as an instrument of punishment as follows. A refractory prisoner is put into a strait jacket and into the lacing are slipped stout staves. These are twisted like tourniquets.

spark, n. A diamond.

speak easy, n. A sawed-off shot gun loaded with buck shot.

spear, v. To beg.

spiel, n. (1) Some article which the tramp peddles, such as "sharps" or laces. (2) A tramp's ghost story.

spike, n. The workhouse or reformatory. v. To upset one's plans.

splinter belly, n. One who does rough carpenter work.

spotter, n. The reconnaissance officer of the underworld who locates suitable buildings to be robbed, preparing for this purpose very elaborate maps.

spring out, v. To escape from prison.

sprinkle the flowers, v. To scatter small bribes at frequent intervals to accredited ward heelers.

spud drag, n. The Bangor and Aroostook Railway.

square it, v. (1) To forsake tramp life. (2) To tip the "shack" to allow the tramp to ride unmolested. (3) To bribe the prosecuting attorney to drop a charge.

stake man, n. A hobo who works long enough to accumulate money.

star route a town, v. To give a town a particular reputation among the tramps.

steam up, v. To get drunk.

stem, n. A street. "I been plingin' the main *stem* all day." v. To panhandle.

stemmer, n. One who *mooches the stem* rather than *batter the privates,* that is, one who prefers to beg for money rather than for food.

stew bum, n. The lowest grade of bum.

sticker, n. A scarf pin.

sticks, n. A man with a peg-leg.

stick up a sucker, v. To pick a man's pockets without violence.

stick up man, n. A bandit who robs by violence or the threat of it.

stiff, n. Specifically, and used alone, this word designates a roustabout on a cattle ship, usually with a disparaging sense. It is also used to form compounds with other words as in "mission-stiff," "sea-stiff," in which case it means only "person," very much as the Gipsy suffix "-engro" in "bar-engro," "jal-engro," etc.

stiffy, n. A beggar who simulates paralysis.

stilts, n. Crutches.

stir, n. The penitentiary.

stomach robber, n. A poor cook.

stone crock, n. Sing Sing prison.
stone getter, n. A *dip* who specializes in rings and pins.
stop over, n. A short jail sentence. "The beak punched me for a thirty day *stop over.*" Long sentences, reckoned in years, are called *spots.*
stoop tobacco, n. Cigar butts which one must stoop to pick up.
straight crip, n. A cripple whose deformity is real.
stretch, n. A prison sentence.
stretchers, n. Shoe laces.
string, n. A tramp's repertoire of *ghost stories.*
suck the bamboo, v. To smoke opium.
super, n. A watch.
swag-man, n. A tramp. The word is said to be an Australian term but it is quite common in Canada.
swamper, n. A brothel roustabout.
sweat, n. To give a prisoner the third degree.
sweat box, n. (1) The third degree. (2) A narrow, coffin-shaped box into which a man is put with his arms chained above his head. His face is smeared with molasses, which the flies and mosquitoes are allowed to eat. This punishment is alleged of the convict camps of the South.
tail man, n. A detective employed for shadowing.
take one's fall to the big house, v. To get a prison sentence.
talent, n. Clever crooks.
tank town, n. A town at which a train must stop for water or coal.
tape, n. The tongue.
teck, n. A detective.
thin one, n. A dime.
throw it into one, v. To talk to one in argot.
throw one's feet, v. To beg for food.
throw one's guts, v. To break a confidence or to be extremely talkative.
throw out, n. A beggar who simulates paralysis by dislocating a leg or arm so that it will hang limp.
ticket, n. (1) A small wooden oard about three by five inches in size on which a tramp sits while riding the rods. (2) A prison sentence.
timber beast, n. A hobo who works in a lumber camp.
timbers, n. Lead pencils; also, a tramp who sells them.
toadskin, n. Paper currency. Apparently from "greenback."
tool, n. The one in a gang of *dips* who actually *lifts the leather.*
tomato can vag, n. The lowest scale of trampdom. It is men of this class who most nearly resemble the newspaper caricatures of tramps.
tombstone, n. A tooth. "The mouth is a *graveyard.*"
tonsil bath, n. A drink.
tourist, n. A tramp.
town clown, n. The chief of police in a small town.
tramp, n. A chronic vagabond who does not work and who is always on the go.
tramp herder, n. A policeman.
train flipping, v. n. Riding trains.

trailer, n. A beggar who follows a circus.
tribe, n. A gang of hoboes who have been riding or working together for some time.
tucker bag, n. A gunny sack used to carry cooking utensils, etc.
tumblings and blanket, n. The "makings" of a cigarette—paper and tobacco.
turf, n. The road, and by extension the life of a vagabond in general.
turkey, n. (1) A canvas duffle bag. (2) A roll of blankets.
twist, n. A loose woman.
underground jungle, n. The graveyard.
underneath it, v. To ride the rods or gunnels of a car.
unload, v. To jump off a train.
unslough, v. To steal a watch from a coat that is buttoned.
upholstered, adj. Infected.
vag, v. To arrest for vagrancy.
valentino, n. A handsome man kept by an oldish woman.
vampire, n. A yegg who travels with hoboes in order to rob them.
varnish car, n. A passenger car.
violent, n. A syphilitic far gone.
virgin, n. A prostitute who pretends that she has never been deflowered.
wagon tramp, n. A tramp who travels with his woman and children after the fashion of gipsies.
walk off, n. A general strike by hoboes, not necessarily for higher wages but for better food, because one of their number was "insulted" by being told to work harder, or any one of a thousand imaginary grievances which are always ready to suggest themselves to people with a natural disinclination for work.
wally, n. A small town gambler.
wany, n. A tramp who begs under cover of selling shoestrings.
water cure, n. A penitentiary punishment for refractory prisoners as follows. The prisoner is laid with his back upon a board to which he is securely strapped. A man with a hose stands over him squirting a jet of water into his nose. When the irritation proves too much the prisoner opens his mouth to cough and gasp. The full force of the hose is then turned into his mouth and lungs.
water tank wise, n. To know the meaning of the signs carved upon the water tank.
weed a dump, v. To rob a store by taking so little at a time that the owner shall not become aware of the fact that he is nightly being robbed.
weeper, n. A lachrymose beggar.
wheel, n. A leg.
white coffee, n. Bootleg whisky.
white line, n. Alcohol and water.
white one, n. A silver watch.
wife, n. (1) A young boy who travels with a tramp. (2) The ball and chain of a convict.
wind chimers, n. Whiskers.

wind pumps, n. Lungs.

window trimming, v. Robbing jewelry stores in the following manner. Two men work in pairs, one heaves a brick through the store window and runs, shouting, so as to draw pursuit. The other reaches through the broken aperture, scoops up the *candy* and makes off in the other direction.

wingy, n. A one-armed man.

winter stake, n. Money saved up by a hobo so as to keep him during the winter.

wire, n. The pickpocket who actually does the "lifting." The stolen article is passed to a second or third party so that if the *wire* is caught there will be no incriminating evidence upon him.

wob, n. An abbreviation for "Wobbly," a member of the I. W. W.

wolf, n. A *jocker* who snares a boy, the "lamb." (2) A tramp who rides a passenger train by main force. There are three classes: The *catter* rides the blinds, platforms, and even the engine tenders; the *dangler* rides the rods, gunnels, or brake beams; the *roofer* rides on the top of the car.

wood-butcher, n. A carpenter.

wooden shoes, n. The stocks. This is a punishment still used in some of the convict camps of the South.

work, n. Begging.

work one over, v. To resort to violence in the third degree inquisitions of the police.

working-stiff, n. A hobo who tries to work conscientiously.

work up steam, v. To get angry.

yard geese, n. Employees in the railway yards.

yegg, n. A tramp burglar or bandit.

yegg-job, n. A clumsy piece of burglary; or, where physical violence has been used upon a person, a particularly bloody and brutal piece of violence.

yellow one, n. A gold watch.

yellow punk, n. Bread and butter.

yip, n. A dog.

zoo, n. (1) A jail. (2) A brothel made up of prostitutes of many nationalities.

zook, n. A dilapidated prostitute.

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APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN WORDS

[The following lists were presented in an unalphabetized single series. The faults of arrangement and the exclusion of many terms, formerly printed or in wide-spread use, are not attributable to the author.—*The Editor.*]

This word-list comes primarily from "The Land of the Saddle Bags" by James Watt Raine, now for many years in the English department of Berea College. He has genuine appreciation and wide knowledge of the mountain people through personal contact with them at this institution.

The book, written primarily to set forth the life and environment of a wide region of the Appalachians, has too a valuable, accurate, and varied dialect material woven into the narrative. It has seemed to me, born and reared in the heart of this region, but east of the great Cumberland Range, that the material in this book is sufficiently varied and authoritative to warrant assembling. The words here listed and the illustrations of their use are taken mainly from the above book, with some corroborative additions and expansions. It may be interpreted that many of these terms are also known and current in the extreme southwestern Virginia—my native home.

I. WORDS WITH EXCEPTIONAL SENSES.

antic, a. Frisky; also, jocular.
ashamed, a. Bashful. "The littl'n's *ashamed.* She ain't much manners."
bed-fast, a. Confined to bed; bed-ridden.
bee-gum, n. A hive for bees;—so called from hollow gum trees.
biscuit, n. Bread.
blackager, a. So frightened as to turn black.
blowth, n. A mass of blossoms.
bresket, n. Energy.
budget, n. A load or bundle. "He carried a *budget* on his back."
bussy, n. A sweetheart. *Buss* for "kiss" is used.
capacitated, a. Having ability. "He takes larnin easy. He's *capacitated.*"
choose, v. To make up one's mind to do.
common, a. Affable. "He's a mighty *common man.*"
content, n. Amount. "Is that a gallon-can? No, but it'll hold quite a *content.*
contrarious, a. Ill-humored.
damified, p. a. Damaged.

deadenin, n. A piece of woodland where the trees have been *deadened,* i. e. cut around the bark, preparatory to clearing the land for cultivation.
destructious, a. Prone to destroy. "Bears are *destructious.* They kill hogs."
disfurnish, v. To inconvenience. "If it don't *disfurnish* ye none, I'll pay ye later."
drammin', n. Drinking.
fault, v. To scold. "He *faulted* her."
filth, n. Weeds or driftwood that fill up.
fire-board, n. Mantelpiece.
fly bresh. A brush formerly used at table to drive away flies, sometimes artistically made of the plumes of pea-fowl.
foller, v. To practice habitually; as, to *foller* speakin or talkin, i. e., to make public speeches or addresses.
funeral, n. A memorial religious service, usually at church, often months or even years after a decease.
granny-woman, n. A midwife.
ham-meat, n. Bacon.
happy, n. A toy. "She should have her *happy.*"
hen-man, n. A dealer in chicken.
hide out, v. phr. To be in hiding, as from officers of the law.
hit, v. To agree; tally. "Your perfession and yer practice *hits.*"
hivey, n. Pertaining to hives, the disease.
hole up, v. phr. To store *away;* as, to *hole up* potatoes for the winter.
infare, n. A reception given at home by a bridegroom.
lasty, a. Prolonged. "It's a *lasty* winter."
laid by, v. phr. Cultivated for the last time. "The corn is *laid by.*"
meat, n. Ham;—used only of the hog. Also *side-meat.*
memorize, v. To remember. "I hain't seen my sister in twenty years. I can't hardly *memorize* her."
milk, n. Buttermilk.
moralize, v. To reprove. "It'll take a right spell to *moralize* John Will."
naturalized to, v. phr. Acquainted with or accustomed to. "Our folks got *naturalized* to the doctor."
penetentir, v. To put into a penitentiary.
picketin fence. A paling.
pleasure, v. To please.
prank, v. To play. "Children love to *prank* with the dog."
pretty, n. A toy. "I want to buy a *pretty* for my baby child." [Not local.]
public works, at. In the employ of a public corporation.
reward, v. To offer a reward for the arrest of. He *rewarded* Bill.
rive, v. To make by riving or splitting; as, to *rive* shingles.
shallow, a. High in pitch;—of musical tones.
sleight, n. Skill.
sob, v. To soak.
soon, a. Early. "A *soon* start."
spell, v. To relieve in turns. "Preachers *spell* each other."

spend, v. To dispense; give freely. "He *spends* opinions."
splash out, v. phr. To haul or drag out;—said of taking logs from woods.
stand, n. A tub, churn or the like, filled, as with honey or beer.
staves, n. pl. Pieces; bits. "We had a cedar churn, but it fell to *staves.*" [Sense doubtful.]
tide, n. A sudden rise in a stream; freshet.
tooth-dentist, n. A dentist.
trace, n. A creek; a branch or fork of a stream.
turkey-tail, a. Spread out fanlike.
unthoughtedly, a. Thoughtlessly; inadvertently.
waiter, n. An attendant of the bride or groom at a wedding.
warrant, v. To take out a warrant against.
waste, v. To use or spend;—not, to squander.
yieldy, a. Abundant in quantity;—of grain.

II. SPECIMEN WORDS INDICATIVE OF PRONUNCIATION.

afraid	afeard	nature	natur
after	arter	obliged	obleeged
again	agin	Osborn	Orsbon
bear	bar	ought to	orter
care	keer	parcel	passel
Caudill	Cordle	pure	pyore
cliff	clift	queer	quar
coiled	quiled	rinse	rensh, rinch
coverlets	kiverlids	salad	sallet
covers	kivers	Scripture	Scripter
crop	crap	service	sarviss
drowning	drownding	stabbed	stobbed
dulcimer	dulcimore	stomach	stummick
earn	yearn	such	sech, sick
earth	yearth	walnut	warnet
fetch	fotch	water	warter
grand-sire	grandsir	wrap	wrop
handkerchief	hankersher	yearn	earn
help	he'p	yeast	east
joist	jiste	yet	tit [sic]
might	mought	yonder	yander

III. SPECIMEN GRAMMATICAL FORMS

Plurals in *-es* for *-s: beastes, frostes, ghostes, nestes, postes, waistes.*
Preterites and past participles in *-ed: borned, growed, ketched, knowed, throwed.*
Other preterite: *brung, clum, drug, fotch, holp, wropt.*
Comparative in *-er: endurabler,* lasting longer.
Reduplication of *-ed: pieded* for "pied," *tosted* for "tossed."
Present tense with *-es* for *-s:* twistes.

IV. SPECIMENS NOTED AS STILL IN USE.

battlin' bench. A bench, board, log-end, or the like where clothes are "battled" (beaten) in washing.

battler, n. The person who "battles" the clothes. The stick or paddle used is called the *battle.*

begone, v. Used as a scolding word in the sense "be off."

buss, n. and v. Kiss.

directly, adv. Rapidly. "Children grow up *directly.*"

full, v. To become full. "The moon *fulls* to-night."

favored, a. Attractive in looks;—of persons.

fray, n. A fight or brawl.

master, a. Big. "A *master* pile of bones."

natured, a. Formed or adopted by nature. "Land right *natured* for corn." "Sheep is *natured* like the deer."

person, n. Compounded as *man-person* for male, and *female-person* for female human beings.

redd, v. To make tidy;—used only of the hair.

scrouge, v. To crowd.

swinge, v. To singe.

tote hogs, to, v. phr. To lure or induce hogs to follow.

use, v. To be accustomed to go or be;—with *in.* "Turkeys *use* in wheat patch.

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MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS.

VANCE RANDOLPH.

The dialect of the Ozark Mountain region was first investigated by Crumb[1] and Carr,[2] but the most important work in this field is that of Taylor,[3] who published a word-list containing more than 800 items. A recent article of my own,[4] published as a sort of supplement to Taylor's list, brought the total up to about 975. The present paper consists of words and phrases overlooked by both Taylor and myself in the previous lists. The material is representative of McDonald, Barry, Stone and Taney counties in Missouri, and Benton, Washington, Carroll and Boone counties in Arkansas.

after-dinner, n. Afternoon. "Caint you-all come over this *after-dinner?*"

anny, n. Anise. "Swoggle yer worms in this hyar sweet-*anny* ef you aim t' ketch catfish."

antick, n. A clown, a buffoon.

arbuckle, n. A sore or risin', doubtless a corruption of carbuncle. "This hyar *arbuckle* started from a santy-fay bite, Doc." A santy-fay is a centipede.

arkansaw, v. To kill in an unfair or unsportsmanlike manner. When a hunter shoots a sitting rabbit with a shotgun at close range, the rabbit is said to be *arkansawed.*

auger-eyed, adj. Sharp eyed, gimlet eyed.

barrel into, v. To shoot at. "Th' bar he clum out'n th' shanty mighty hasty, an' th' boys shore did *bar'l inter* him!"

ballot, n. The written words of a song. "My boy he written out th' *ballot* o' thet 'ar song, but I reckon I don los' hit somers." The combination *song-ballot* is also common.

beholden, part. adj. Obliged or indebted. "We-uns aint *beholden* t' them Tollivers fer nothin', nor never was."

betsey, n. This term is applied to various tools and utensils, but applies chiefly to the big mallet used in driving fence-posts. "I'll take ol' *betsey* and jes' bust hell out o' thet 'ar feller!"

[1] Crumb, D. S. The Dialect of Southeastern Missouri, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. II, part 5, 1903, pp. 304-337.

[2] Carr, Joseph William. Words from Northwest Arkansas, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. II, part 6, 1904, pp. 416-422; Vol. III, part 1, 1905, pp. 68-103; Vol. III, part 2, 1906, pp. 124-165; Vol. III, part 5, 1909, pp. 392-406.

[3] Taylor, Jay L. B. Snake County Talk, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. V, part 6, 1923, pp. 197-225.

[4] Randolph, Vance. A Word List from the Ozarks, *Dialect Notes,* Vol. V, part 9, 1926, pp. 397-405.

belief, n. This word seems to be used only with reference to religious or theological matters. "My *belief*" is equivalent to "my religion."

bird wire, n. A four-foot piece of thin wire, with a weight at one end. Cast into a covey of quails or other birds this primitive weapon is quite effective, and is widely used among the boys in the Ozarks.

blackguard, v. To talk about obscene matters, or to tell smutty stories. "Them Simpson gals jes' sets 'roun' an' *blackguards* all day."

blackguard talk, n. Obscene language, smutty anecdote. "I'm agin this hyar *blackguard talk* right in th' church-house."

blemage, n. Blemish. "She's a plum purty critter, 'thout nary spot nor *blemage.*"

blue-gum moke, n. A negro whose gums are bluish instead of red. It is said that the bite of one of these fellows is deadly poison.

blue hen's chicken, n. phr. A formidable fighter. "You-uns git Hank rousted up now, an' he shore is one o' th' *ol' blue hen's chickens.*"

boggy, adj. Semi-delirious, as under the influence of drugs.

bored for the simples, v. phr. A jocular expression referring to a stupid individual. "W'y, th' danged ol' fool! He should orter be *bored fer th' simples!*" The idea is that a hole in the skull might let some of the foolishness out.

by jerps! inter. A common expression of astonishment.

by juckies! inter. An exclamation denoting surprise or excitement.

chance, n. Accident. "Hit 'd jes' be a *chance* ef you-all ever see thet feller agin."

chaunk, v. To crush between the teeth. "Don't spit them grape seeds out—jes' *chaunk* 'em."

chug, n. A slight depression in the road. "Hit rained jes' 'nough t' fill all them leetle *chugs* full o' water."

chunk, n. A stick of wood, a short log. "Jeff he caint shoot nohow less'n he restes his rifle-gun on a *chunk.*"

chunk, v. To discard, to waste, to throw away. "He jes' kep' *a-chunkin'* his money away."

civvy-cat, n. A civet, a little striped skunk, very similar to the phoby-cat of the Southwest.

clew, v. To strike. "An' then I jes' *clewd* him side o' th' head."

common, adj. Devoid of snobbishness or conceit, the highest compliment that can be paid to a professional man or a *furriner.* "Doc Oakley's jes' a nice, *common* feller."

cornstalk gun, n. A weapon used by the hill children in hunting small birds. A handful of fine gravel is thrown sling-fashion from the hollow end of a cornstalk.

cove, n. A narrow, sheltered valley.

creen, v. To lean or fall sidewise. "Th' ol' man went *a-creenin'* 'roun' all evenin', an' fin'ly he fell right spang inter th' hog-waller."

crimp, v. To writhe in agony, to collapse. "Tom shore did *crimp* up when thet 'ar bigges' gal kicked him in th' stummick."

cut a rusty, v. phr. To do something foolish or improper. "I shore did *cut a rusty* when I showed th' ol' woman thet 'ar letter."

dift, v. To strike. "You-all orter a seed me *dift* him one side o' th' head."

dip, n. Sweetened cream, eaten with pie, apple dumpling, cobbler and the like.

draggy, adj. Slow, late. "Th' job's all right, but the pay's a leetle *draggy* a-gittin' hyar, mostly."

draps, n. Drops, liquid medicine. "My woman was ailin'-like, but Doc he gin her some powders an' *draps*."

dote, v. To anticipate with pleasure. "I shore caint miss th' singin' convention now—I jes' been *a-dotin'* on hit all winter."

ducy, n. Penis. Pronounced so as to rhyme with Lucy. This word seems to be used mostly by the old women in the Ozarks.

duke, v. To duck, to dodge. "I seen a feller *duke* in behint th' barn."

dunk, v. To dip. "Them young-uns is allus *a-dunkin'* their bread in th' bottom-sop."

ever what, adj. Whatever. "*Ever whut* you-all want done hyar now, we-uns shore will 'tend to hit."

ever which, adj. Whichever. "*Ever which* o' them 'ar saddles you-all want, jes' holler an' hit's yourn."

fallin' weather, n. Rainy or snowy weather. "Hit's so cloudy like, I reckon we'll git *fallin' weather* 'fore night."

fastly, adv. Firmly, persistently. "Brethren, you-all got t' stick *fastly* t' th' church o' Gawd!"

feelark, n. The meadowlark. Probably a contraction of field-lark. These birds are also known as medlars.

fetching, adj. This emphatic adjective is in very common use, but does'nt seem to mean anything in particular. The following sentence is typical: "F'our o' them Tadlock boys jumped onter him t' once, but Jim he licked ever' *fetchin'* one of 'em."

fist v. To beat with the fists. "Th' ol' woman she jes' *fisted* him sumthin' turrible."

fore-top, n. The fore-lock, a long lock of hair on the forehead.

fractious, adj. Irritable, contrary. "He's th' *fractiousest* ol' feller I ever seed."

gal, v. To seek feminine society. "Th' boys allus goes *a-gallin'* of a Sunday." *Gallin'* is somewhat more respectable than *tom-cattin'*, but considerably less so than *sparkin'*, which latter term frequently implies serious matrimonial intentions.

goozle, n. Throat. "Wet yer *goozle* oncet with this hyar licker."

granny cat, n. A kind of square-nosed yellow catfish.

hate, v. This word is often used in the sense of regret. A mountain man, on hearing of his mother's death, said: "Oh my Gawd, I *hate* that!"

hawg-leg, n. A large pistol or revolver. "I'm agin this hyar packin' *hawg-legs*, and sich."

heading, n. Pillow. "Corncobs is all right in their place, but they shore make a mighty sorry *headin'*."

he-huckleberry, n. A variety of huckleberry, the fruit of which is twice the size of the ordinary kind.

hoe, n. The singular form of hose. "A good slick *hoe* shore does purty up a gal's laig."

holler, n. Hollow. This word is often used to designate, not the hollow or gorge itself, but the stream of water which flows through the hollow. In many cases the stream has no other name; one does not fish in Mill *creek* or Mill *branch,* but in Mill *holler.*

horn, n. A measure of liquid. "I shore do need a *horn* o' right good licker." The words *dram* and *snort* are often used in the same sense.

jam rock, n. One of the side stones in the fireplace. "Jeff he sets up t' thet 'ar gal like a sick kitten t' a *jam rock.*"

jerp, n. A small quantity. This word is most often used with reference to sweets. "She shore does like a leetle *jerp* o' sugar on her bread."

jower, v. To argue, to quarrel, to complain. "Him an' her is allus *a-jowerin'* 'bout thet dang tooth-dentist." The word is also used as a noun: "They done had a little *jower,* 'pears like."

knowance, n. Knowledge. "Wal, hit mout be so, but I sure aint got no *knowance* of hit."

lashins and lavins, n. A great quantity. "Shore them Hawkinses hev got money—*lashins an' lavins* of hit."

lay out, v. phr. To lie idle or unused. A phrase applied to cleared land not under cultivation. "I jes' had t' let th' east forty *lay out* this year."

lids, n. The cover or binding of a book. "No sir, you caint find hit nowhar 'twixt th' *lids* o' th' Book!" The word *Book,* in the Ozarks, means the King James version of the Bible.

lie a corpse, v. phr. To lie in state. "When anybody's a-dyin', or *a-layin' a corpse,* th' chickens crows day an' night."

line-sider, n. The large-mouthed black bass. Until recently this was the commonest term in the Ozarks, but now one often hears *bass* and *government-fish*—since many streams have been stocked by the state hatcheries.

lolliper, n. Something particularly admirable or pleasing. "Look at thet 'ar Paisley gal! Aint she a *lolliper,* now!"

mass dark, adj. Absolutely dark. "Hit's jes' plum *mass dark* in them 'ar caves—darker'n whut hit ever does git top o' th' ground."

middling, adj. Tolerable. "'How's th' ol' woman, Gabe?' 'Oh, she's *middlin'*—jes' fair t' *middlin'.*"

miller, v. To beat, to pummel. "My boy he ketched thet feller an' jes' *millered* him up t' a fare-you-well."

misput, v. To misplace, to lose, to mislay.

mistress, n. The formal pronunciation of *Mrs.* In ordinary conversation the Ozarker says *Mis'* or *Miz,* but on ceremonious occasions he pronounces *Mistress* very distinctly. The word is never used in a disparaging sense.

mixtry, n. A mixture. "This hyar puddin's jes' a kinder *mixtry* like."

mountain boomer, n. A large collared lizard, which the hillmen believe to be very poisonous.

musicker, n. A musician, one who plays a musical instrument. The term *musicianer* is also heard occasionally.

newby, nooby, n. A long knit scarf or muffler, usually wrapped twice around the neck.

novel, n. Novelty, newness. "Lem he never swaps nothin' till he gits th' *novel* all wore off'n hit."

nursement, n. Milk. When a young mother says "th' *nursement* is a-comin' on fine now" she means simply that her milk is flowing freely. The word *nurse* is sometimes used in the same sense: "Th' baby done spit up his *nurse* again, Doc."

out, v. To cheat, to defraud. "He don't need no pension, nohow—he's jes' a-tryin' t' *out* th' Gov'ment."

parts, n. Region or locality. "My chaps ketched the biggest possum ever saw in these *parts.*"

peckerwood, n. Woodpecker.

personate, v. To call by name. "He *personated* me right out before all them 'ar furriners!"

piddle, v. To potter about, to be occupied with small tasks of no great consequence. "Thet 'ar boy'll git hisse'f kilt one o' these days, *a-piddlin'* 'roun' th' saw-mill."

pieded-like, adj. In poor health, of an unhealthy complexion. "Lizzie looks kinder *pieded-like* lately." The word really means spotted, or pied.

piece of the ways, n. A part of the distance. "Maw she come *a piece o' th' ways* with me."

pinnywinkle, n. A snail, a periwinkle. The term is usually applied to the little black water-snail so common in the Ozarks, but sometimes refers to the big land-snail found along the limestone ledges.

pistol-whipping, n. A beating with the butt of a pistol. "Elmer shore did give thet stranger a turrible *pistol-whippin'*—come mighty nigh a-killin' him."

prank, v. To experiment, to manipulate. "Thet fool boy'll ruinate hisse'f, *a-prankin'* with thet 'ar choppin'-axe."

pussy, adj. Countrified, awkard. "She's th' *pussiest* ol' woman in th' hull settlement."

reverence, v. To tolerate. "Ef a feller done me like Lem done her, I shore would'nt *reverence* him fer a minute."

ridge runner, n. A derisive term for the mountaineer, as contrasted with the valley farmer. Implies ignorance or stupidity. The word *hill-billy* is used in the same sense.

riding, v. Living as an outlaw, a fugitive from justice. The term is most often used with reference to felons—bank-robbers and the like. "My pappy he minds when th' James boys was *a-ridin',* an' many's th' time Jesse slep' right in this hyar cabin."

rollix, v. To carouse, or to philander. "Doc Yancey he jes' lef' his woman at home an' went *a-rollixin'* 'round th' country."

rotine, n. A series of connected items. "They's a hull *rotine* o' thet 'ar ballet, but I caint sing hit no more." This means merely that the song has many verses, but that the speaker has forgotten them.

sang root, n. Ginseng, a plant which is fairly common in some parts of the Ozarks. The dried roots command a fair price at the country drug-stores.

saying, n. A speech. "He jes' cussed everbody plum scan'lous! I never hyeerd such a *sayin'* in my whole life." The word is also used with reference to proverbs, maxims and quotations. I have heard the twenty-third Psalm described as "a mighty good *sayin'.*"

scoffle, v. To ridicule, to scoff. "Maggie kep' *a-scofflin'* at me—allus a hell-raisin' 'bout somthin'."

scrooge, v. To squeeze or crowd in. "I'll jes' *scrooge* in hyar 'long side o' th' school-marm."

scurvy, n. A slight discoloration of the teeth, said to be remedied by chewing raw potatoes.

set a spell, v. phr. To visit. "I don't relish them folks none, but I *sot a spell* with 'em anyways."

shell duck, n. The shoveller, or spoonbill duck.

shield, n. A sheath. "His shirt was tore, an' I seed a cowhide *shield* 'ith a big knife into hit."

shiver, v. To propel, to throw, to fire. "They done *shivered* four bullets inter Jim Yancey 'fore he c'd git t' whar his weepon was at."

singing convention, n. A competitive meeting of the local singers. These gatherings were formerly called singing matches, but the term *convention* is regarded as more dignified.

slathers, n. A very large amount. "Them fellers has all got *slathers* o' money."

slattery, adj. Dirty, dilapidated. "Jim's pappy he lives in a ol' *slattery* shanty."

slow, v. To attack, to kill. The word is pronounced to rhyme with *plow,* and is perhaps a corruption of *slay.*

snackin', n. A lunch. "I aint et nothin' only a leetle *snackin'* out'n thet 'ar poke."

snag, n. A tall old stump of a tree.

snibbling, adj. Dark, cloudy, rainy. "I caint go nowhar on sich a bad, *snibblin'* day as this hyar, nohow."

sop, n. Gravy, usually made from pork. The upper transparent grease is called *top-sop,* while the heavier, opaque part is known as *bottom-sop.*

squee-jawed, adj. Crooked, irregular. "Thet 'ar smokehouse is plum *squee-jawed.*"

squinch owl, n. Screech owl.

squire, n. This word is in very common use, meaning justice of the peace. "Th' *squire* has went a-fishin', but he'll git back afore night."

stash, v. To conceal, to cache. "Billy he done *stashed* the jug in th' brush, an' now the damned ol' fool caint find hit!"

stillyerd, n. Steelyard, a balance. The term is applied to any primitive device for estimating weight.

stooped, adj. Leaning or inclined, often applied to trees extending out over the water. "Th' Injun he crope out onter a *stooped* tree an' gigged him a survigrous red-horse." The red-horse is a common Ozark fish—a kind of sucker.

stopper, n. A drink of whiskey. "Jes' a leetle *stopper* now 'n' then aint a-goin' t' hurt nobody."

strollopin', adj. Highly satisfactory. "Jeff shore has made hisse'f some *strollopin'* good licker."

strut, v. To swell. "Maw's foot's plum *strutted* this mornin'. Yes, sir, jes' swole plum t' a *strut.*"

susy, adj. Ludicrously conceited. "I shore did holler 'n' laugh at thet 'ar *susy* preacher-man."

swiddle, v. To stir, to dip. "He kep' *a-swiddlin'* his finger in th' puddin'."

swade on, v. phr. To persuade. "I did'nt aim t' go noways, but Elly she jes' *swaded on* me till I done hit."

sweared, v. Damned. "I'll be *sweared* t' Gawd ef I ever hyeerd tell o' sich doin's."

switch cane, n. A kind of evergreen bamboo, about the size of pipestems. "An' all this time th' bar he was a-flouncin' 'roun' in th' *switch cane.*"

talk to, v. To court, to woo. "Th' ol' fool was *a-talkin'* to a widder-woman afore his wife was cold, sca'cely."

tanglement, n. A thicket. "I shore caint run th'ough no sich a *tanglement* as thet 'ar."

tetchous, adj. Tender, sensitive.

through, n. A series of doses of medicine, particularly applicable to purgatives. "I taken a *through* o' calomel las' week, an' now Doc's done fixed me up a turrible *through* o' physic."

toad-frog, n. Toad. The word frog is used with reference to both frogs and toads.

tom catting, v. To seek illicit sexual adventure. "Jeff he's out *a-tom-cattin'* 'roun' som'ers."

trantler, n. Tarantula, a big hairy spider.

tudy-rose, n. A peculiar design sometimes used in quilts and fancy-work. Someone has suggested that it may be identical with the Rose of the Tudors.

tunk, v. To thump, to rap. "Injuns haint no sense; allus *a-tunkin'* on drums, or somethin'."

turn, n. Inclination, disposition. "Thet 'ar boy he tuk a *turn* jes' like his ol' pappy—allus a-fightin' an' a-jowerin'."

tutor, v. To pamper, to indulge. "She jes' *tutored* up thet young-un till he aint wuth shucks fer nothin'."

warp, v. To bend. "Get a-goin' now, or I'll jes' *warp* this hyar fence-post over yer head."

weep, v. To droop, to bend over. Usually applied to trees. An accumulation of ice and snow makes the cedars "begin t' *weep* a leetle."

wet-weather horn, n. A horn which turns upward. "Th' ol' brindle 'ith th' *wet-weather horns* she up an' died on me."

whomper-jawed, adj. Distorted, misshapen. "Anse's oldes' boy is kinder *whomper-jawed.*" The term is sometimes applied to inanimate objects—crooked cabins, vehicles and articles of furniture.

woodchuck, n. Woodpecker. The animal which the New Englander calls a woodchuck is always a ground-hog in the Ozarks.

yonkipin, n. Water lily. "The *yonkipins* is in roastin' ear" means that they are fully developed—the mature pistil somewhat resembles an ear of corn.

zephyr, n. A woman's wrap. Usually a knitted or crocheted diamond-shaped thing worn over the head and shoulders. A similar but more modern garment is known as a *fascinator.*

VANCE RANDOLPH.

Pittsburg, Kansas.

TO BEGIN THE DICTIONARY.

Copies of Professor W. A. Craigie's paper on *The Historical Dictionary of American English and the American Dialect Dictionary* have been sent presumably to all members of the Society. At our annual meeting in December, 1925, Professor Craigie was appointed Director of Research for the *American Dialect Dictionary* and it was recommended that collectanea for use in that dictionary be entrusted to his care. The boundary line between the two dictionaries can be determined only by editorial examination of material collected for use in either. Such collectanea as are presented will in all probability usually contribute to the making of both dictionaries.

The time is now opportune, therefore, to undertake two lines of work for early use in preparing the Society's dictionary. One consists in an offer to read and make excerpts from books, magazine articles, documents, and newspapers according to Professor Craigie's recommendation or the reader's choice. It is probably best, at least initially, that the individual select material personally accessible and congenial. Apart from novels and stories containing dialect, as Lincoln's, and such dramas as Percy Mackaye's *This Fine-Pretty World,* much of importance will be found in the documents reprinted in local histories—of towns, counties, or states; in the files of many newspapers, notably the New York *Sun;* in early American diaries, histories of families, etc. Collectanea of this sort, made according to Professor Craigie's directions, should be sent to him at the University of Chicago.

The second line of work more immediately concerns the Society's dictionary, and is indeed an indispensable preliminary to any editorial work in preparing it. The items in *Dialect*

Notes (1890-1927) must be reduced to an alphabetical card index and filed in with several thousand other cards already in the Society's archives. The obvious process is to cut up two sets of *Dialect Notes,* paste the clippings on 3 x 5 cards, and place on each a reference to volume, page, author, and locality. The Society has not immediate funds to pay for this clerical work. No donation for the purpose has materialized. The work is too considerable for any individual volunteer. Under these circumstances it appears necessary to appeal for a coöperative effort, for volunteers each to undertake to do this work for one of the forty parts. Such volunteers are now requested to fill out and send the statement on the ensuing page.

The member who undertakes to prepare a Part will be sent two copies of that issue, marked to indicate which sections to prepare and which to omit. One article at a time should be cut, labelled, and pasted to avoid confusion. Each keyword entry should be pasted on a separate slip with the margins trimmed off. The label should be placed at the lower right hand corner, reading, for example: "Ozarks (Randolph) V 10. 479." At completion, the pasted slips should be catalogued in a single alphabetical list. Modesty regarding one's talents need be no deterrent.

The Society's dictionary stands quite apart from the field of commercial publication. It is a coöperative undertaking of scholars. One ideal which should govern its preparation is that each and every member of the Society should find in its pages the tracings of his personal contribution to its achievement.

THE SECRETARY.

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